DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 123 137 95 SO 008 638

AUTHOR Fontes, Maria Joao, Ed.; Fontes, Manuel da Costa, Ed.
TITLE Christmas, Natal, Navidad in Cuba, Mexico, and Portugal.
INSTITUTION ABC Unified School District, Cerritos, Calif.
SPONS AGENCY Office of Bilingual Education (DHEW/OE), Washington, D.C.
PUB DATE 75
NOTE 71p.; Some pages may be marginally legible due to print quality of original. Reproduced from best copy available

EDRS PRICE MF-$0.83 HC-$3.50 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS *Bilingual Education; Classroom Games; Cubans; *Cultural Activities; *Ethnic Studies; Immigrants; *Instructional Materials; Junior High School Students; Mexican Americans; *Minority Group Children; Portuguese; Puzzles; Reading Materials; Secondary Education; Spanish; *Student Developed Materials
IDENTIFIERS California; *Christmas; Cuba; Elementary Secondary Education Act Title VII; ESEA Title VII; Mexico; Portugal

ABSTRACT

This material is a compilation of junior high school student-developed stories and games about the way Christmas is celebrated in Portugal, Mexico, and Cuba. The material was developed in the classroom by Portuguese, Mexican, and Cuban immigrant students and by American students who do not have a recent immigrant background, all of whom were participants in the Trilingual Program of the ABC Unified School District in California. The booklet has three main sections: (1) Memories of Christmas in the Azores and Angloa; (2) Memories of Christmas in Mexico and California; and (3) Memories of Christmas in Cuba. The student-developed materials, some written in English and others in Portuguese and Spanish, include maps, poems, short stories, words to unscramble, a spelling baseball game, seek-and-find word games, word matching games, crossword puzzles, and drawings. (Author/RM)

****
* Documents acquired by ERIC include many informal unpublished *
* materials not available from other sources. ERIC makes every effort *
* to obtain the best copy available. Nevertheless, items of marginal *
* reproducibility are often encountered and this affects the quality *
* of the microfiche and hardcopy reproductions ERIC makes available *
* via the ERIC Document Reproduction Service (EDRS). EDRS is not *
* responsible for the quality of the original document. Reproductions *
* supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made from the original. *
****

ED122137

SP008638

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
EDUCATION & WELFARE
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF
EDUCATION

THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN REPRODUCED EXACTLY AS RECEIVED FROM THE PERSON OR ORGANIZATION ORIGINATING IT. POINTS OF VIEW OR OPINIONS STATED DO NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT OFFICIAL NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION POSITION OR POLICY.

John N. Vlei

OCT 20 1975

CHRISTMAS

NATAL

NAVIDAD

IN CUBA, MEXICO AND PORTUGAL

AUTHORS: The Students in the Trilingual Program,
Faye Ross Junior High School

EDITORS: Maria João Câmara Fontes, B.A., M.A.T.
Manuel da Costa Fontes, B.A., M.A., C. Phil.

1975

These materials were published under the ESEA Title VII government grant for Bilingual Education in Portuguese. Permission to reproduce the materials in part or in whole must be secured in writing from the ABC Unified School District, 16700 Norwalk Blvd., Cerritos, California 90701 (213) 926-5566 Ext. 121

Chas. W. L. Hutchison	Superintendent, ABC Unified School District
Charles C. Vernon	Deputy Superintendent
Frank J. Ochoa	Administrator, Multi-Cultural Education
Tom B. Porter	Principal, Faye Ross Junior High School
John N. Vieira	Portuguese Program Specialist

Special thanks to Maria Coelho for typing the manuscript

PREFACE

Christmas is the most important festivity of the year in any of the three immigrant cultures represented here: Cuban, Mexican and Portuguese. The idea of compiling this book originated with the Portuguese students in the Trilingual Program at Faye Ross Junior High School, in Artesia. Yet, when the time came for them to put it into practice, the majority claimed that they did not remember anything. This project, which was carried out by the students themselves, shows that they were able to recall much more than they realized.

Everything was developed in the classroom by the Trilingual Program classes during the Fall, 1974, under the direction of their teacher, Maria João Câmara Fontes, with the assistance of her aides, Martha Gutierrez and Linda da Veiga. The students in the culture classes wrote the stories, and those in the language classes developed the games. American students without a recent immigrant background also prepared games.

Editing has been kept to a minimum. Every effort was made to preserve the authenticity of Christmas in Cuba, Mexico and Portugal as remembered by the students.

This book provides an insight into the most critical stage of adaptation of young people into a new culture, for it takes place during the early school years. Many were forced to remember the past by themselves for the first time, and those who were born in the United States or came here when they were very young had to seek the aid of their parents. Perhaps because the past always seems more appealing when viewed from a distance, some students soon came to realize how much they missed Christmas "back home," and how much fun they used to have then. One of the stories is entitled Memories, because the new environment, being completely different, does not allow the birth of Christ to be celebrated in the same manner. A Mexican-American student seems to prefer Christmas in Mexico; yet, when he visits his cousins there, he teaches them American games such as football. This book, therefore, shows to what degree parental culture is engrained in the children. Some had to write in English since they could no longer use the language of their ancestors. But many were forced to borrow Portuguese and Spanish words in order to express themselves.

There is also something to be learned here about the ways in which Christmas is celebrated in other countries, not to mention great cultural differences. A Mexican-American student pointed out that in Mexico children are allowed to drink alcoholic beverages. This is usually true of areas not under the influence of the Puritan ethic. In all three countries--Mexico, Cuba and Portugal--Christmas is especially for children. No one mentioned gifts being exchanged among adults. The description of the meals served shows that Christmas is also considered a time for food. Finally, the three cultures represented here celebrate the birth of Christ with an elaborate nativity scene, called a "nacimiento" or a "presépio." Although their common Hispanic background does provide for these similarities, there are also some differences. To our knowledge, the "posadas" are exclusively Mexican. In Portugal, children place their shoe next to the fireplace or under the Christmas tree, hoping that Baby Jesus (São Nicolau or Papá Noel in some areas) will not forget to leave them a present. The most elaborate Christmas festivities, however, are perhaps those which take place in Mexico, where participating adults dress themselves up as the Wise Men of the East, the Virgin Mary, etc. And the most dramatic story is probably the one written by the Cuban student who, besides the traditional celebrations, also remembered the parading of Fidel's tanks and soldiers during Christmas.

Maria J. C. Fontes
Manuel C. Fontes

INDEX

A. MEMORIES OF CHRISTMAS IN THE AZORES AND ANGOLA

Map of the Island of Terceira 2
Um Poema de Natal 3
Christmas in Serreta 4
Unscramble 5
O Natal na Agualva, Terceira 6
Baseball game 8
O Natal em S. Bartolomeu 9
Seek and Find 11
Unscramble 12
O Natal na Minha Freguesia 13
Memories of Christmas From My Village 15
Seek and Find 16
New Year's in Biscoitos 17
Desimpede e Combina 18
Christmas in Biscoitos 19
Seek and Find 21
Natal na Minha Aldeia 22
Crosswood Puzzle 23
Christmas in Serreta 24
Unscramble 25
O Natal no Sul de Angola 26
Seek and Find 27
Paul and Maria's Christmas 29
Natal (Poema) 32

B. MEMORIES OF CHRISTMAS IN MEXICO AND CALIFORNIA

Los días de Navidad en Sanches, Román, Zacatecas, México 36
Seek and Find 38
Navidad en Guanajuato 39
Spelling Baseball 40
How Mexican People Celebrate Christmas in California 41
Match 43
Navidad en Zacatecas 44
Puzzle 45
Navidad en Camichines 46
Matching 47
La Navidad en Jalpa, Mexico 48
Guess and Clue 49
La Navidad en Jalisco 50
Felices Navidades (Juego) 51
La Navidad en mi Pueblo 52
Busca (Juego) 53
Christmas (Poem) 54
Seek and Find 55
Navidad 56

C. MEMORIES OF CHRISTMAS IN CUBA

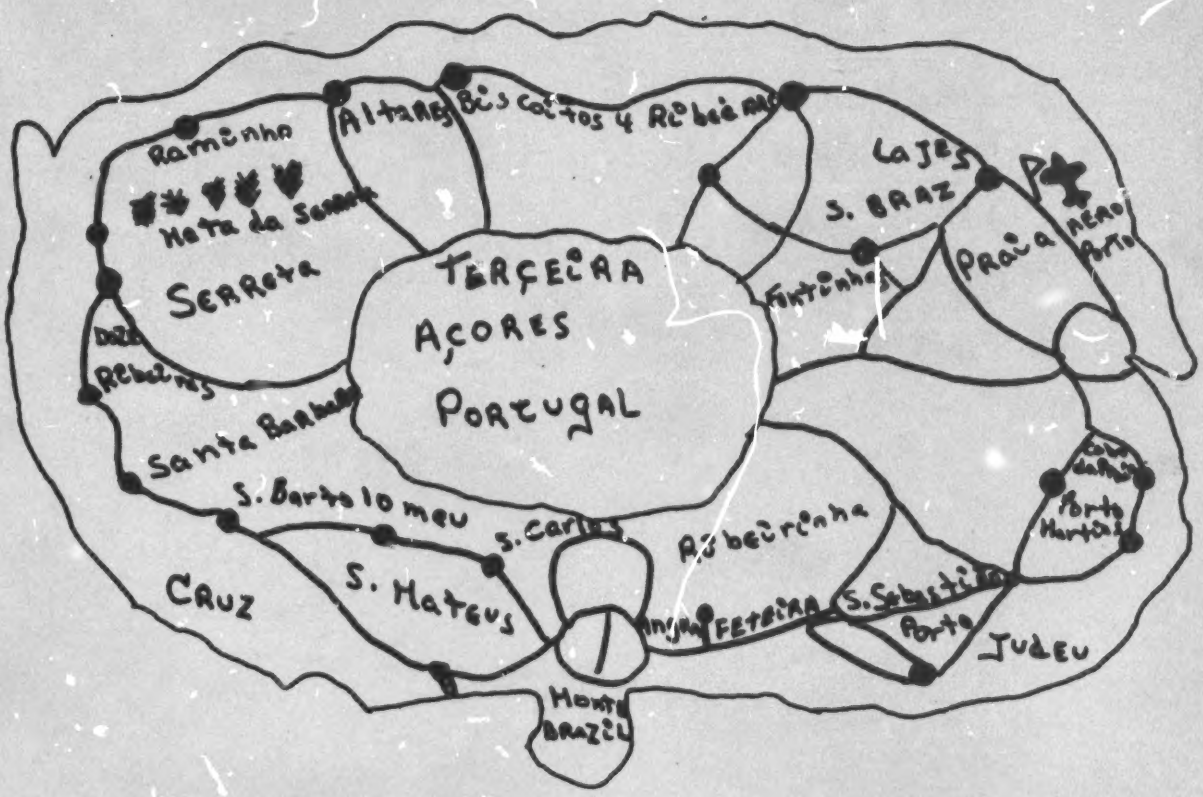
La Navidad en Oriente, Cuba 60
Find it and Name it in Spanish 61
Las Navidades de mi Pueblo, Camaguey 63
Look at the Picture and Name What You See (Game). 64

MEMORIES OF CHRISTMAS

IN

THE AZORES AND ANGOLA

MAPA DA ILHA TERCEIRA



Manuela Almeida, 13
Vital Lourenço, 12
Portuguese Culture
Faye Ross Jr. High School

Um Poema de Natal

No Natal
as crianças
estão contentes
por terem
seus presentes
que o Pai Natal lhes dá.

No Natal
as crianças
são felizes
e convidam
seus amigos
para verem o presépio
e a árvore de Natal.

No Natal
nós recordamos
O Pai Natal que vem
da gruta de Belém.

O Natal
é a lembrança
de Jesus
que nos vem recordar
que ele veio à terra
para nos salvar

Nessa Noite
O céu é brilhante
fica como uma luz
está a recordar-nos
o nascimento de Jesus.

Mathew Feliciano
14 anos de idade
Cultura Portuguesa
Faye Ross Jr. High School

Christmas in Serreta

In Serreta all the family goes to the woods and we look for cedar and we carry it home. We decorate the Christmas tree with cards and hang homemade dolls and little balls on the tree.

To make the manger scene we go and look for rocks. My brother looks for cardboard and moss. My sister makes houses. We put all of this underneath the tree.

Inside the house we put some hay and in it goes baby Jesus. Around baby Jesus we put a burro and a cow and St. Joseph and Our Lady. These figures are made of clay and we buy them in the store.

If I didn't have anything else to do I might be in the kitchen cleaning the bowls where my mother had mixed the cakes. If not in the kitchen I could be outside hanging around with the neighborhood boys. We would steal eggs from our mother's chickens and would go to the store and exchange them for ice cream.

When the house was all pretty and ready we would put our shoe by the chimney. Christmas Eve, our family would eat supper and then go to church and pray to baby Jesus. After the mass was over we all went home to bed and slept until the night was over.

Every Christmas, for some reason, my grandfather would stay behind after we came from church. Today I understand that he was the one that went to put the toys in our shoes, but then I would believe what my grandmother would tell us: "That Santa Claus would come during the night through the chimney and leave us presents." When Christmas day came we all woke up and mother would tell us to go and look in the shoe and take what was in it. We would have candy and toys to play with.

I remember getting plastic cars, small balls, and fake pocket knives. I was very proud of them and would show them off to my friends, who were jealous, and would tell me that they would not put anything.

We'd spend the rest of the day playing and that's how we passed Christmas.

Frank Ferreira
15 years old
Portuguese Culture
Faye Ross Jr. High School

UNSCRAMBLE / DESIMPEDE

1. TALIZLEFNA _____
2. SOLBO _____
3. AEITEONMI _____
4. SOSONH _____
5. MECAOL _____
6. GEMMVAIIRRA _____
7. ORHEINIP _____
8. OSADMOGILAS _____
9. LOGAA _____
10. OORRACSHC _____
11. RBELERCA _____
12. RUBOR _____
13. PSAAOT _____
14. HVOELSA _____
15. ZDEROBME _____
16. SAHNILHAP _____
17. NDCTROEASEATLA _____
18. ALGDAOO _____
19. CVAA _____
20. SATSEFSAOB _____
21. EMLEB _____
22. VRETADLNAEORA _____
23. JONA _____
24. STRAEPSO _____
25. SREASA _____
26. AILMAFI _____
27. TARGU _____
28. GSOUM _____

Ricky Esteves
12 years old
Portuguese Language
Faye Ross Jr. High School

O Natal na Agualva, Terceira

Na minha freguesia, na véspera do Natal, toda a família ajuda a arranjar a casa.

Minha mãe é que cozinha as comidas. Às vezes é alcatra e outras vezes é galinha ou coelho, bolos, arroz doce e outras coisas.

Nós vamos comprar a árvore para enfeitar.

O presépio é colocado ao pé da árvore, quase sempre perto duma janela. Há quem ponha a árvore no canto da casa ou em outro lugar qualquer. Nós colocávamos a árvore em cima duma lata calcada com pedras, e púnhamos algodão em cima das pedras para não aparecer. Forrávamos a lata com papel fino.

Na árvore põe-se pedacinhos de algodão preso aos galhos da árvore. Também se põe balões, galões, bolas, e os pequenos prendem quase sempre rebuçados, chocolates e laranjas.

Debaixo da árvore temos o presépio, que é uma gruta feita de pedra redonda e coberta com tapetes.

No chão da gruta põe-se farelo e no fundo da gruta põe-se um burro a comer palha e duas vaquinhas.

No meio tem o Menino Jesus no seu berço em cima das palhinhas. De roda do Menino Jesus há as ovelhinhas. À esquerda está o São José, e à direita Nossa Senhora.

Em cima da gruta coloca-se um galo e uma estrelinha que significa a estrela que guiou os três Reis Magos.

Também fazíamos um caminho com latinhas de trigo semeado, e no chão farelo, com os Reis Magos a visitar o Menino Jesus.

Ao lado faz-se serrados de pastagem com ovelhas, pedras forradas com tapetes, piões de milho, casas de papelão, uma escola com uma luz dentro, bonecos a imitar pessoas, ratos feitos de palha de aço a fingir que vão ao milho, uma pana com água azul, barcos fingindo que estão a pescar peixe, e outras coisas a enfeitar o presépio.

Quando se acaba de enfeitar o presépio e a árvore vamos todos comer, e quando a meia-noite chega vamos à Missa do Galo. É muito bonito. O coro canta, e

quando vamos tomar Nosso Senhor nós damos um beijo no pé do Menino Jesus e tiramos todos uma palhinha pequenina.

Quando acaba a missa vamos para casa. Pomos um sapatinho na chaminé, e às vezes também uma meia.

Também vamos pôr um sapato na chaminé da casa dos nossos vizinhos que nos convidaram, e nas casas dos nossos tios e primos.

Quando é de manhã, nós todos nos levantamos para ir buscar os nossos presentes à nossa chaminé e às casas dos outros vizinhos.

Depois, à tarde, nós nos ajuntamos todos e vamos cantar pelas portas.

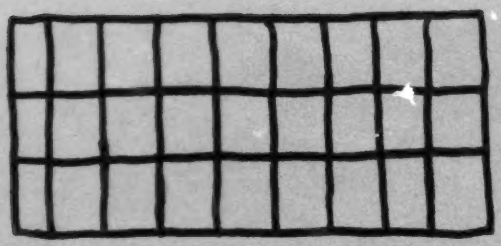
Daí a uma semana é o primeiro dia do Ano Novo, que celebramos com um jantar para toda a família.

Depois, no dia dos Reis Magos, nós vamos todos à missa do meio dia, e quando é à tarde, tiramos todos o presépio e a árvore do Natal. E assim se celebra o Natal na minha freguesia.

Hélia Félix
13 anos de idade
Cultura Portuguesa
Faye Ross Jr. High School

BASEBALL

SCORE

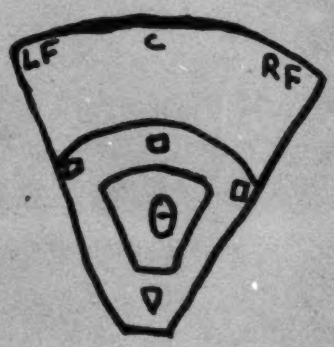


Merry Christmas
Shoe
Angel
Star
Wise Men
Family
Cow
Donkey
Camel
Sheep
Chicken Broth
Manger Scene
Celebrate
Bell
Midnight
December

These words are to be translated into Portuguese

THEME : Christmas Eve Customs

DIRECTIONS: This is a spelling Baseball game. It has the same rules as regular Baseball. Every incorrect word is an out. The harder the word, the better the hit. You tell the teacher if you want to go for a homerun or a triple, double or single after all the words are finished. The game is over the team with the most runs wins.



Joe Borges
13 years old
Portuguese Language
Faye Ross Jr. High School

O Natal em São Bertolomeu

Nas vésperas do Natal as pessoas enfeitam as casas e as árvores do Natal. Em geral são os pais que vão às matas buscar uma árvore para a família começar a enfeitar.

Além da árvore também temos o presépio, que é uma casinha de madeira que meu padrinho nos fez e que é coberta de palha.

Muitas vezes os pais mandam os filhos buscar musgo para pôr no presépio.

No presépio também se põe o Menino Jesus nas palhinhas e S. José ao lado esquerdo do Menino Jesus e sua mãe ao lado direito.

Na entrada tem os três Reis Magos, e por cima do presépio põe-se um Anjo da Guarda. Num curral colocam-se animais de barro como ovelhinhas, vacas, burrinhos, etc.

Na véspera do Natal as mães fazem doces e bolos, limpam as casas e lavam as janelas e põem flores em jarras por todo o lado.

À meia-noite o pai Natal vem pôr brinquedos nos sapatinhos.

Muitos pequenos da minha idade acreditam no Pai Natal e pensam que ele existe.

Logo de manhã, no dia de Natal, os que não querem ir a missa da meia noite vão à missa da manhã, que é às sete horas.

Os que podem preparam uma alcatra para as visitas. Muitas das pessoas convidam os seus familiares para jantar com eles pela volta das duas horas da tarde no dia de Natal. Na mesa há pão, vinho, alcatra, galinha ou coelhos, doces, bolos, fruta, etc.

No dia depois do dia do Natal, muitos pequenos juntam-se a brincar com os seus brinquedos novos.

As pessoas que tinham dó dos pobres davam comida e roupa para se manterem.

Nas vésperas do Bom Ano as mães amassam massa sovada, e os filhos procuram linheiros de melros para botar nas brindeirinhas. Os ovos de galinha vão para os bolos grandes.

Os filhos também acartam lenha para acender o forno e as pás para botar a massa no forno. Muitas vezes a massa não levanta bem, tem que se ter paciência.

Nas vésperas do Ano Novo a igreja da aldeia toca o sino à meia-noite. As pessoas da aldeia juntam-se a dar felicidades e desejos de Bom Ano Novo a todos, tanto ricos como pobres.

No dia do Bom Ano, juntam-se no terreiro da aldeia e arrematam galinhas, milho, coelhos, etc..., oferecidos pelo povo que está presente, e divertem-se com muita alegria e saúde.

Joe Tristão
13 anos de idade
Cultura Portuguesa
Faye Ross Jr. High School

SEEK AND FIND / PROCURE E ENCONTRE

B	A	C	S	E	R	O	T	S	A	P	E	F	G	S	T
D	A	I	R	A	M	M	E	G	R	I	V	U	V	W	X
E	H	K	L	M	O	N	O	P	Q	R	B	Y	Z	A	A
S	I	K	M	N	N	O	S	B	Q	U	A	F	E	B	C
O	J	L	E	M	I	P	A	R	R	C	B	Z	S	C	A
J	H	I	N	H	S	G	F	R	E	D	Y	S	U	D	V
S	M	J	L	O	P	R	O	V	E	L	H	A	S	S	R
O	I	J	K	N	Q	S	T	U	X	W	V	R	E	O	A
L	H	P	A	L	H	I	N	H	A	S	G	A	J	G	L
E	E	F	E	B	A	O	J	N	A	Z	Y	E	O	A	E
M	D	C	H	O	R	I	E	H	N	I	P	S	N	M	R
A	Q	R	L	S	T	U	V	W	X	X	J	I	I	S	T
C	N	L	A	T	A	N	Z	I	L	E	F	H	N	I	S
M	O	P	P	A	L	H	E	I	R	O	K	G	E	E	E
C	L	S	O	H	N	O	S	M	E	L	E	B	M	R	Z

Find twenty Portuguese words from the Manger Scene

Anjo
Belém
Pasto
Burro
Camelo
Estrela
Feliz Natal
Menino Jesus
Ovelhas
Vaca
Palheiro
Palhinhas
Pastores
Pinheiro
Reis Magos
S. José
Searas
Sino
Sonhos
Virgem Maria

Irene Coelho
12 anos de idade
Portuguese Language
Faye Ross Jr. High School

UNSCRAMBLE / DESIMPEDE

1. SAISM OD GAOL _____
2. AGDOLAO _____
3. LOAAG _____
4. RCLEERAB _____
5. ASOBSAFEST _____
6. RSAAES _____
7. GSUOM _____
8. TAURG _____
9. IRVGEM AARIM _____
10. COREB _____
11. AMFLIAI _____
12. CAVA _____
13. RRUBO _____
14. HALSEVO _____
15. ELOMAC _____
16. ONSI _____
17. TEIONAIEM _____
18. ROBMZEDE _____
19. LAATN OD SEOTCAR _____
20. ROIHENPI _____
21. LAPSAHNIH _____
22. ALPIEORH _____
23. LAANTZILEF _____
24. REOVAREDTANAL _____
25. RRAOHCOCS _____
26. ESEOIPRP _____
27. JUSES INONEM _____
28. LAERTSE _____
29. OJAN _____
30. ALATN _____
31. HOSNOS _____
32. MIESA _____
33. AAAADSBRN _____
34. MLEEB _____
35. ORTEPSSA _____
36. OAPTASS _____
37. AMGSO ISER _____
38. ASBOL _____

Tony Fagundes
13 anos de idade
Cultura Portuguesa
Faye Ross Jr. High School

O Natal na Minha Freguesia

O Natal é a festa mais bonita do ano.

Na minha freguesia, dias antes do Natal, as famílias vão buscar leivas, pedras, bagacina, etc., para fazerem o presépio. Este é feito da seguinte maneira: coloca-se uma vaca, um burro e outros animais. Também se põe o Menino Jesus nas palhinhas, Nossa Senhora à sua direita e S. José à sua esquerda. Esta gruta é uma imitação da gruta onde o Menino Jesus nasceu. Em cima da gruta põe-se uma estrela que é a chamada estrela de David, a qual guiou os Reis Magos ao presépio. Também se fazem caminhos e por um deles colocamos os Reis Magos a virem visitar o Menino Jesus e também se põe outras pessoas que vêm ver o Menino Jesus com os seus presentes. Com as leivas fazem-se serrados, poem-se ovelhas, vacas, e também casinhas de papel, que as crianças fazem na escola. Os presépios podem ser grandes ou pequenos, conforme as coisas que as pessoas têm para por neles.

Também se compram árvores de Natal. As pessoas mais pobres vão a um mato e cortam uma árvore que pareça mais ou menos uma árvore de Natal. Enfeitam as árvores com galão, bolas, luzes, e também quase todas as crianças prendem chocolates e rebuçados nas árvores para que fiquem mais bonitas.

As árvores de Natal são geralmente postas no mesmo quarto onde se faz o presépio.

No dia antes do Natal as pessoas enfeitam as suas casas e preparam algumas bebidas e coisas de comer, como aperitivos. Também neste dia à noite eles deitam o sapatinho na cheminé ou então debaixo da árvore de Natal, como seja o costume da família, e também vão deitar o sapatinho em casa dos seus tios e avós.

Depois, um pouco antes da meia noite, eles vão para a igreja assistir à Missa do Galo. No altar há um grande presépio e em frente deste um letreiro com letras muito grandes que diz Paz. Depois da missa, todas as pessoas vão beijar o pé ao Menino Jesus. Ao pé do Menino Jesus há uma bandeja onde as pessoas deitam dinheiro.

Depois as pessoas vão para casa de alguns amigos celebrar um pouco a noite de Natal.

As crianças, quando era no outro dia logo de manhã, levantavam-se e iam ver o que era que o Menino Jesus tinha deitado no seu sapatinho. Depois eles iam pelas casas onde tinham deixado os seus sapatos e iam buscar

também o que o Menino Jesus tinha deixado lá.

Neste dia as pessoas que não tinham ido à Missa do Galo iam às outras missas durante o dia.

Durante o dia do Natal as famílias reúnem-se e vão a casa dos seus parentes e amigos. As crianças juntam-se a brincar com os seus amigos e cada um deles mostra o que o Menino Jesus lhe deu.

No último dia do Ano as pessoas estão levantadas até à meia noite. Quando chega a esta hora algumas pessoas saem de casa e vão à porta dos seus parentes e amigos, e fazem muito barulho na parte de fora. Também anda a filarmónica pela rua a tocar. Às vezes alguns perdem a conta de quantos copos de vinho tomaram e embebedam-se.

Quando é no dia do Ano Novo os parentes e amigos tornam-se a visitar, desejando votos de um Feliz Ano Novo.

A 6 de Janeiro, dia dos Reis, escangalhamos a árvore de Natal e o Presépio. Quase sempre as crianças é que escangalham o presépio e a árvore de Natal, para ser eles que comam os chocolates e rebuçados. É assim que se celebram estes dias em S. Sebastião.

Maria Regina Falcão
13 anos de idade
Cultura Portuguesa
Faye Ross Jr. High School

Memories of Christmas From my Village

I left Terceira Island, Azores, when I was only eight years old. I don't remember very much of how Christmas was celebrated there. However, I hear my parents talking about it.

Sometimes I remember getting in a truck together with my father's brother, sister and friends and going to the mountain to cut our Christmas tree. When we got home my older brother would nail the tree. Then they would let me put straws, balls and candies. We also put a candle by the window.

On the morning of the day before Christmas I would get up early and sneak candy from the tree, but I had to be very careful so nobody would see me, or else I was in trouble, serious trouble.

The other most important thing besides the tree was the "presépio." It is built under the tree like this: A little barn with little Jesus lying down on straw with his mother, father, cow, a donkey, and a little lamb. Outside the barn we would build a little village with houses, trees, fields, lakes, streets, mountains and so on.

On Christmas Eve I also remember putting a shoe under the chimney so that Santa Claus would bring me presents. Christmas day morning, as soon as I got up, I would run to the kitchen and look at my shoe to see what I got. Then I would open the presents and be really happy all day long.

This is all I can remember about Christmas in Pico do Urso.

Carlos Fernandes
14 years old
Portuguese Culture
Faye Ross Jr. High School

SEEK AND FIND / PROCURE E ENCONTRE

F	M	U	S	G	O	P	A	L	H	I	N	H	A	S	S	O	A	V
M	E	N	I	N	O	J	E	S	U	S	G	E	F	D	A	V	L	I
C	E	L	E	B	R	A	R	A	B	C	A	B	A	E	D	E	G	R
A	Z	M	I	S	S	A	D	O	G	A	L	O	M	Z	A	L	O	G
S	M	L	Z	Z	B	B	O	L	A	S	A	A	I	E	N	H	D	E
B	E	L	E	M	N	R	O	L	H	R	O	S	L	M	A	A	A	M
S	I	R	E	R	N	A	T	A	L	L	R	F	I	B	D	S	O	M
I	A	L	O	D	F	Q	T	O	S	A	S	E	A	R	A	S	C	A
C	C	A	R	T	A	O	R	A	H	S	X	S	S	O	R	C	S	R
C	E	S	O	J	S	I	P	N	L	A	U	T	B	E	A	B	A	I
A	T	I	J	L	E	A	N	J	O	I	R	A	S	T	R	T	R	A
M	I	H	S	H	T	M	P	C	P	E	Q	S	D	O	I	I	R	G
E	O	G	L	O	N	R	E	I	S	M	A	G	O	S	A	N	O	R
L	N	A	F	E	N	B	U	R	R	O	S	I	N	O	B	H	H	V
O	P	V	A	C	A	H	D	E	S	T	R	E	L	A	C	F	C	T
A	R	V	O	R	E	D	O	N	A	T	A	L	B	E	R	C	O	A

Find 39 Portuguese words pertaining to Christmas

Feliz Natal
Missa do Galo
Boas Festas
Presépio
Menino Jesus
Searas
Árvore de Natal
Churrasco
Sapato
Pastores
Belém
Rabanadas
Sonho
Anjo
Reis Magos
Estrela
Meias
S. José
Virgem Maria
Gruta
Musgo
Palheiro
Palhinhas
Berço
Família
Vaca
Burro
Camelo
Ovelhas
Sino
Meia
Noite
Dezembro
Celebrar
Bolas
Galão
Algodão
Cartão
Natal

Manuel Bernardo
13 years old
Portuguese Language
Faye Ros[illegible] Jr. High School
16

New Year's in Biscoitos

I was only ten years old when my family left Biscoitos. This is what I remember about how we celebrate New Year's Eve and New Year's Day.

On the day before New Year's, we go to school in the afternoon. School would let out at five o'clock. As soon as school was over we would go home and start celebrating.

My mother would make chicken, salad, cake and cookies for dinner. Our company would start to arrive shortly after we returned from school. My grandparents, uncles, aunts, and cousins would come over to our house to celebrate with us.

After dinner, all the women would help my mother wash dishes. While they were washing dishes the men would play cards, waiting for them to finish.

When the women were finished, we would all walk to the theater. The movie would start around 8 o'clock and it would be over at 11 o'clock. Everyone would go home and wait for the New Year to come.

They'd have parties until 12 o'clock. There would be lots to drink and eat. When 12 o'clock struck, somebody would announce it out and we would wish everyone a Happy New Year. After midnight everyone would start to go home and us children would go to bed. My mother and father would stay up to lock the doors and turn out the petroleum lamps.

On New Year's Day we used to get up at seven o'clock to do our homework. After we were through with our homework we would get ready to go to church. Everyone in the town would attend mass at the same time because our town only had one church and there would be only one mass said on New Year's Day.

When the mass was over we'd all go home, the kids would change from their good clothes into their play clothes, and we'd play outside all day. Around five o'clock we'd go in to have our dinner. When dinner was over we'd all go into town again to see another movie. After the movie we'd all go home and go to bed.

That was the end of our New Year's Day.

Adão Garcia
13 years old
Portuguese Culture
Faye Ross Jr. High School

DESIMPEDE E COMBINA / UNSCRAMBLE AND MATCH

Words Pertaining to Christmas / Palavras acerca do Natal

1.	TALAN ZIELF	_____	_____	A. Midnight Mass
2.	SSIAM OD OALG	_____	_____	B. Christmas Tree
3.	OABS EST[illegible]3F	_____	_____	C. French Toast
4.	JSSEU NINOEM	_____	_____	D. Angel
5.	RASSEA	_____	_____	E. Cave
6.	PRESIOEP	_____	_____	F. Baby Jesus
7.	NLATA AVRORE ED	_____	_____	G. Sheepherders
8.	PATOAS	_____	_____	H. Merry Christmas
9.	TORESSAP	_____	_____	I. Star
10.	MELEB	_____	_____	J. Manger
11.	JOAN	_____	_____	K. Hay Fields
12.	TRELAES	_____	_____	L. Season's Greetings
13.	MIESA	_____	_____	M. Stockings
14.	RABANDASA	_____	_____	N. Bethlehem
15.	TAURG	_____	_____	O. Shoe
16.	PAHLIERO	_____	_____	P. Family
17.	OCREB	_____	_____	Q. Haystack
18.	FAMIILA	_____	_____	R. Donkey
19.	CAAV	_____	_____	S. Craddle
20.	RROUB	_____	_____	T. Sheep
21.	LHASOVE	_____	_____	U. Cow

Paul Do Canto
12 years old
Portuguese Language
Faye Ross Jr. High School

Christmas in Biscoitos

I was only eight years old when I left Biscoitos. This is what I remember about Christmas in Biscoitos. About a week before Christmas my Dad and brother went to the woods to cut a Christmas tree. They would put it in a horsedrawn wagon and bring it home.

At home everybody decorates the Christmas tree with homemade dolls, candies, wallnuts, and chestnuts, and my mother covers the base of the tree with cotton.

The Nativity scene is set up under the tree. It's usually a deep box covered with an embroidered cloth. Inside the box we place straws. On top of the straw we put homemade dolls of Our Lady, the Baby Jesus and St. Joseph.

On the 24th of December my mother and I cook chicken and rabbit. We bake and decorate cookies, in shapes of trees, boys, girls, etc. On Christmas Eve all of my aunts, uncles, godparents, and grandparents come to our house.

The women in our family would cook and set the table. Someone would start to sing. The men would go outside to talk to the neighbors and to each other while they waited for the meal to be done. Then we would come in and eat our supper. For dessert we had homemade fruit cocktail that my mother made especially for Christmas. After our meal we all had some anise.

At twelve o'clock we all went to the midnight mass. When mass was over we went to our friends houses. We used to knock on the door and say "O Menino Jesus mija?," Which means "Does Jesus pe?" They'd open the door and would give us a cup of wine or liquor to drink.

Afterwards we go home, place the shoes on the chimney and go to bed.

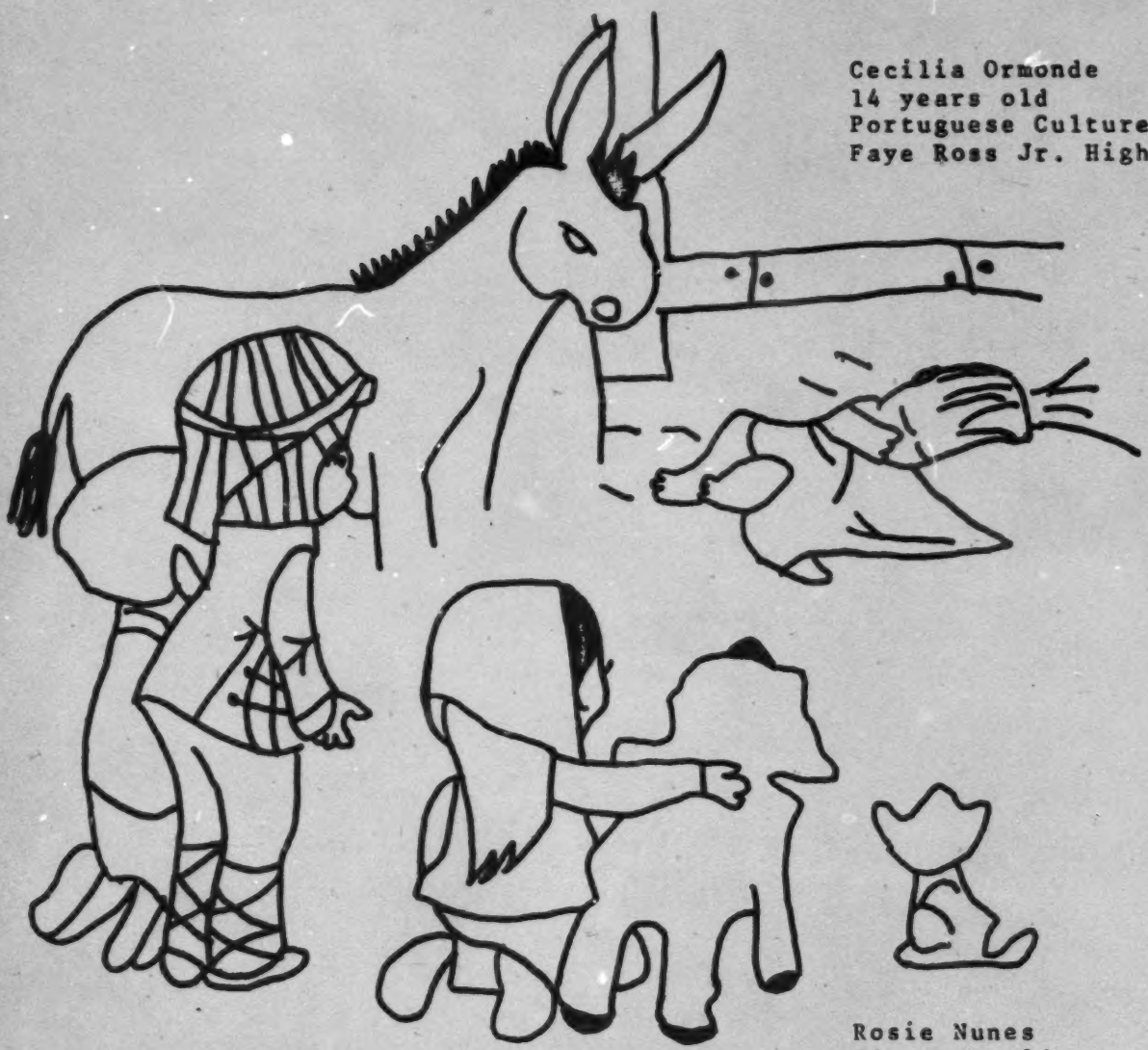
Around 6 or 7 o'clock on Christmas Day we go to see what presents we've received. Usually I'd get dolls, shoes, dresses, pants, etc. I remember one special Christmas when I got a sewing machine, it was pink, made out of wood and worked with needle and thread. I would make dresses for my dolls, my mother would cut the clothes for me. On this same Christmas I also got some pretty blue galoshes made by my shoemaker uncle.

Next we had to get ready for lunch. My aunts would come a little bit early to help. My aunts would help my

mother to cook. My cousins and I would be setting the table in the meantime with flowers and baskets of fruit.

Our father would get the wine which he and my uncles and grandfather had made earlier in the year. For the ones that did not drink wine there was lemonade.

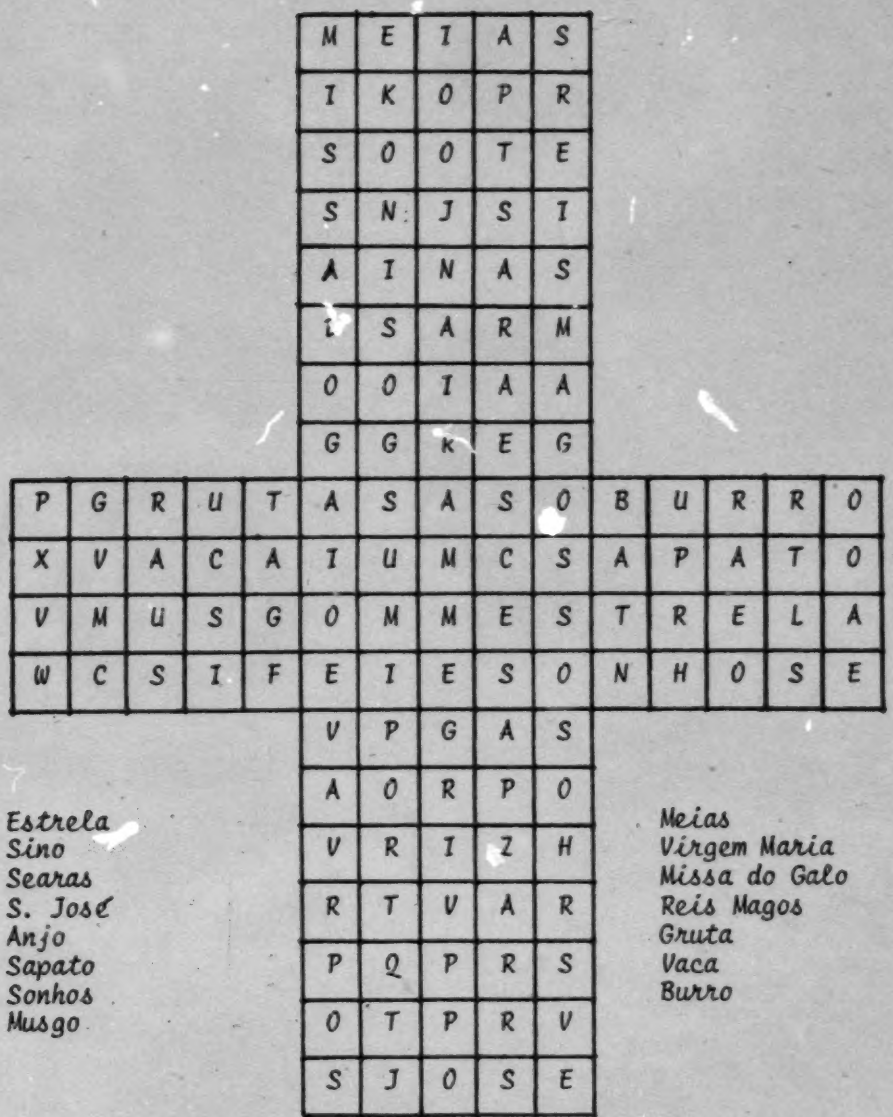
In the afternoon we played games and the men talked and played cards.



Cecilia Ormonde
14 years old
Portuguese Culture
Faye Ross Jr. High School

Rosie Nunes
13 years old
Portuguese Culture
Faye Ross Jr. High School

SEEK AND FIND / PROCURE E ENCONTRE


M E I A S
I K O P R
S O O T E
S N J S I
A I N A S
I S A R M
O O I A A
G G K E G
P G R U T A S A S O B U R R O
X V A C A I U M C S A P A T O
V M U S G O M M E S T R E L A
W C S I F E I E S O N H O S E
V P G A S
A O R P O
V R I Z H
R T V A R
P Q P R S
O T P R V
S J O S E

Estrela
Sino
Searas
S. José
Anjo
Sapato
Sonhos
Musgo

Meias
Virgem Maria
Missa do Galo
Reis Magos
Gruta
Vaca
Burro

Lino Lourenço
14 anos de idade
Lingua Portuguesa
Faye Ross Jr. High School

Natal na Minha Aldeia

Eu sou da Canada dos Morros, Altares.

Antes do dia de Natal, logo de manhã, o meu pai e eu vamos buscar terra aos serrados. Trazemos a terra num balde para fazer os caminhos, fingindo que os carros estão passando perto do presépio. Também fazemos serrados no presépio.

Depois nós todos vamos buscar a árvore de Natal ao mato. O meu pai corta-a com um machado. Nós a enfeitamos com estrelas em cima da árvore, pomos bolas coloridas, brilhantes, e rebuçados. Debaixo da árvore nós fazemos uma freguesia pequenina com uma gruta e lá pomos o Menino Jesus. Ao pé dele pomos ovelhas, vacas e um burro, que foram os animais que ajudaram o Menino Jesus quando ele nasceu.

Depois da árvore de Natal estar enfeitada, nós vamos de casa em casa, a beber licor e a comer figos passados. Também dançamos e ouvimos cantar e quando chega a meia-noite nós vamos à missa levar presentes ao Menino Jesus. Depois vamos para casa, e antes de dormir pomos um sapato ao pé da chaminé, para o Menino Jesus lá pôr os nossos presentes.

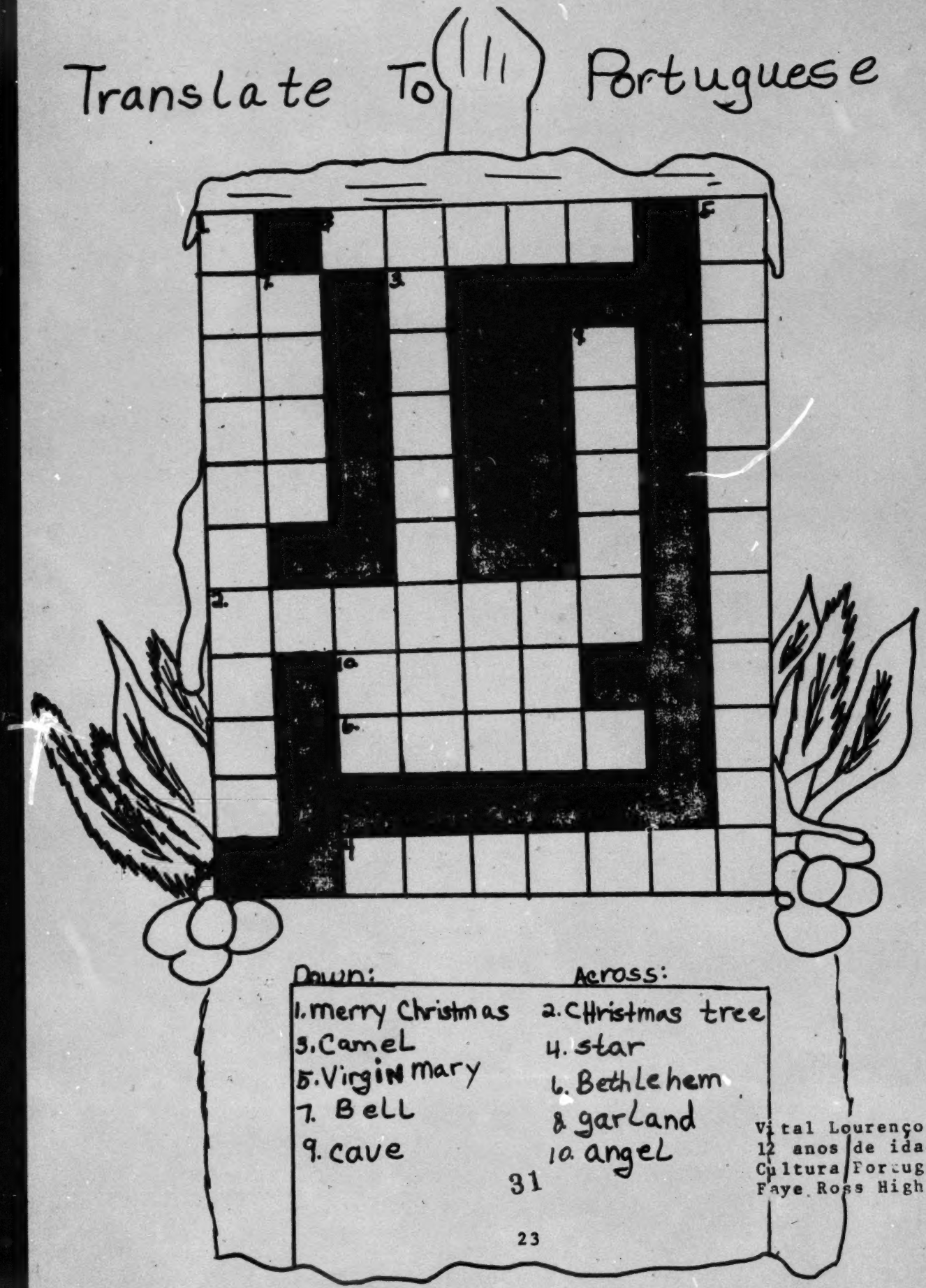
Assim nós nos preparamos para o Natal.

No dia de Natal, às seis horas da manhã, eu vou à chaminé ver o que é que eu tenho. Os presentes de que eu gosto mais são uns sapatos ou um carro para brincar.

Depois de abrir os presentes eu vou levar as vacas ao mato, e elas lá ficam até ao outro dia. Por volta das duas nós comemos a alcatra. A seguir da comida o meu pai vai para o salão, e eu vou jogar à bola com os meus amigos. Quando é uma e 7:30 a nossa família vai ver um filme no salão, e depois já é outro dia novo para a gente.

Víctor Lourenço
12 anos de idade
Cultura Portuguesa
Faye Ross Jr. High School

Translate To Portuguese



Down:

1. merry Christmas
3. CameL
5. VirgiN mary
7. BeLL
9. cave

Across:

2. CHristmas tree
4. star
6. BethLehem
8. garLand
10. angeL

31

Vital Lourenço
12 anos de idade
Cultura Portuguesa
Faye Ross High School

UNSCRAMBLE / DESIMPEDE

1. RSAESA _____
2. OPTAAS _____
3. AIESM _____
4. GMUSO _____
5. LFAIMAI _____
6. CVAA _____
7. VEHLOAS _____
8. NISO _____
9. LOBSA _____
10. ALGOA _____
11. ZFELI LNTAA _____
12. LARTESE _____
13. SOJES _____
14. HNSOOS _____
15. LAAOODG _____
16. ECBRRAEL _____
17. SMISA OD LOAG _____
18. RPEESPOI _____
19. LAPIEHRO _____
20. MEACOL _____
21. RURBO _____
22. COREB _____
23. RACOTSE ED ATLAN _____
24. AMIE NITEO _____
25. ARNDAABSA _____
26. ZDEEMRBO _____
27. DPIIEORH _____
28. AOBS TSAFES _____
29. ORMENI SUSJE _____
30. AVRERO ED TLNAA _____
31. MBEEL _____
32. HCRORSCOA _____
33. TPSAROSE _____
34. JONA _____
35. AGUTR _____
36. RVIEGM RMAAI _____
37. SEIR GOMAS _____

Lisa Lipe
12 years old
Portuguese Language
Faye Ross Jr. High School

O Natal no Sul de Angola

O Natal do Sul de Angola, de onde eu sou, é tempo das famílias se juntarem e se divertirem.

Para mim era tempo de brincar, rir, cantava, andava de bicicleta, porque estava de férias, mas também tinha trabalho de escola para fazer.

O Natal para nós é dia de se celebrar o nascimento de Jesus. A História diz que ele nasceu em Dezembro do dia 24 para o dia 25.

Em nossa casa os homens da família, meu pai, meus tios, meus primos e eu íamos cortar a árvore à nossa fazenda, onde tínhamos muitos cedros. Trazíamo-los para casa num tractor.

Entretanto, em casa, as mulheres, minha mãe, minha irmã, minhas primas e tias estavam-se preparando para a festa. Cozia-se churrascos, que era galinhas ou perus com batatas assadas em forno de pedra. O pão, bolos, suspiros, massa sovada, também eram feitos.

Quando chegávamos a casa com a árvore, todos ajudavam a enfeitar com bolas coloridas, lâmpadas, fios, algodão desfiado, e a base punha-se dentro dum baldo pintado onde se colava papel de prendas.

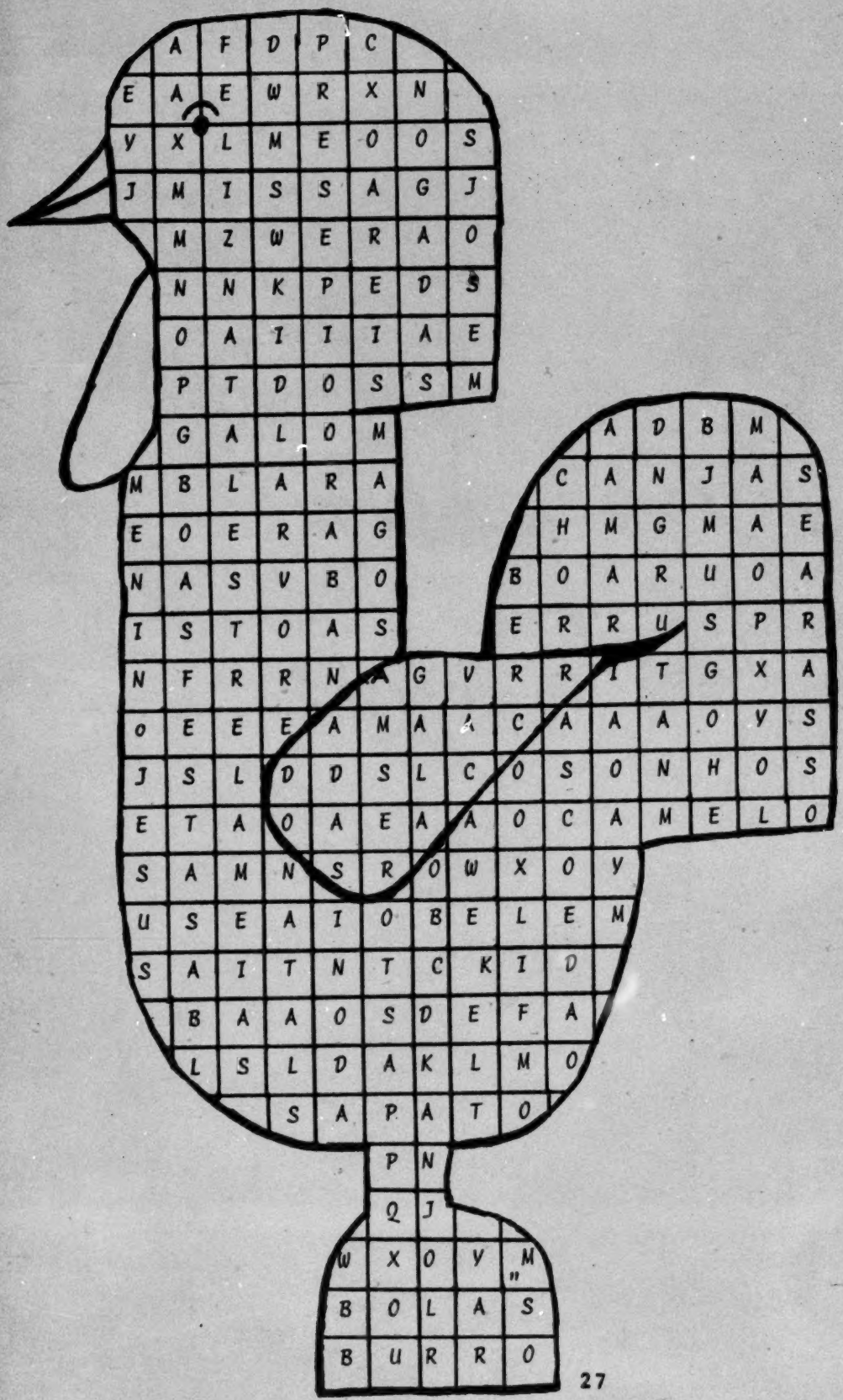
Debaixo da árvore fazíamos o presépio. Com pedras soltas construíamos uma gruta. Os homens iam buscar musgo ao morro e com ele cobríamos a gruta e espalhávamo-lo por todo o lado. Dentro da gruta punhamos um burro e uma vaca para que com o seu bafo conservassem o Menino Jesus quentinho. Ao lado do Menino Jesus púnhamos o São José e Nossa Senhora. A entrar a gruta tínhamos os Reis Magos e dependurando da árvore tínhamos a estrela que guiou os Reis até o presépio.

Na noite do dia 24 nós nos juntávamos todos e jantávamos. Esse jantar chama-se "Consoada." Depois íamos todos passear e conversar para casa do meu avô até chegar a hora da Missa do Galo. Todos, incluindo o meu avô, íamos à missa. Depois da missa íamos para a cama.

E assim nós nos preparávamos para o Natal.

David Mendes
12 anos de idade
Cultura Portuguesa
Faye Ross Jr. High School

SEEK AND FIND / PROCURE E ENCONTRE



Feliz Natal
Missa do Galo
Boas Festas
Presépio
Árvore de Natal
Canja
Churrascos
Sapato
Pastores
Belém
Anjo
Estrela
Meias
Rabanadas
Sonhos
Nogados
Reis Magos
Searas
Menino Jesus
S. José
Maria
Musgo
Berço
Vaca
Burro
Camelo
Sino
Bolas
Galão
Algodão

Joe Tristão
13 anos de idade
Cultura Portuguesa
Faye Ross Jr. High
School

27

Jimmy Gonçalves
13 years old
Portuguese Culture
Faye Ross Jr. High School

Paul and Maria's Christmas

It was five days before Christmas. Paul and Maria, who were brother and sister, were getting ready to celebrate the coming Christmas.

It was December 20, 1969. Paul was 9 and Maria was 7. They lived on Canada dos Morros, Altares, Terceira, Azores.

They were thinking about what to get for their parents. They could not decide whether to get a nice blue dress or some good smelling perfume for their mother. For their father they didn't know if he wanted new boots or a new hat. But when Paul said: "He might want a new axe," Maria broke in silently and said: "He might like that."

Just then, Mrs. Sousa, who was their mother, walked in and said: "The food is ready, so come and eat." After they finished their dinner, they both went into their room and got a book and started to read. Just then Paul broke out and said: "Where will we get the money? We could sell some eggs, but then we wouldn't make enough money and Christmas is in five days." "We've got to think fast," said Maria. Paul said: "We could try and get a job, but where?"

A day passed and they still had no idea of what to do. That night Paul told Maria: "I have an idea; Mr. Rocha will give us a job in the market. If I'm right, he might pay 5 escudos an hour." "That would be great," said Maria. So they went right to the market. They saw Mr. Rocha with a customer. Maria said: "Hi, Mr. Rocha." Mr. Rocha replied: "Hello, what can I do for you?" "We are looking for a job," replied Paul. "Because we need money to buy some presents for our parents," said Maria. "O.K., I will give you a job," said Mr. Rocha, "if you work 4 hours a day I will pay you 3 escudos an hour." "O.K., what do you want us to do?," said Paul very happily. Mr. Rocha said: "Maria, you will stay in the back and take care of the food and the shipments that will come in. Paul, you will stay out here with me and help with the customers. You will start today at 10 a.m."

So Paul and Maria walked happily home.

When they arrived home they ran to their mother and told her the good news. She said "O.K., but you had better come and eat something before you go to work."

They walked to Mr. Rocha's Market.

When they arrived Mr. Rocha said: "Hello." "Hello," replied Paul and Maria. They went right to work. By the end of three days they had all the money they needed.

That morning Paul and Maria sneaked out of the house and took a bus to the city. When they arrived they went to a store that sold tools. They carefully picked out an axe with a red handle and shiny silver blade.

Maria said: "Now we have to find something for mother." They went to a store that sold clothes. They finally found what they wanted, but then they worried whether it was going to fit or not. But they went on ahead and bought it. It was a perfect blue and red dress. With the money they had left they took a bus and went home. Paul sent Maria to check to see if mother was there. Maria came back and said: "There is nobody home."

When their mother got home she was exhausted. She had been shopping herself.

Maria asked, "Where is father? So we can fix the presépio."

Suddenly father bursted in: "Help me bring the wood in," he asked Paul. Paul accepted and went to help his father.

After all the wood had been in the house they started to work on the "Presépio." Maria went out and got some moss. Mr. Sousa gently put up the posts and he nailed them together. Then he picked up thinner branches and nailed them to the posts. After that he got some branches and laid them on top. Next they laid the moss and made little fields. Then they laid little sheep made of clay and other little animals fattening in the fields. After, they put the little shepherds and kings walking towards the manger. Then they planted a little basket with hay and wrapped a little doll, which represents little Jesus, and placed him in the basket. They got a little statue of Mary and St. Joseph and placed them by the basket looking down at the baby. Paul said to Maria: "Go get the star." She walked out with a beautiful shiny star. Mr. Sousa carefully picked up the star and hung it over the manger.

It was 15 minutes until midnight. The family was getting ready for the "Missa do Galo."

When the Mass was over they went and kissed the baby Jesus's foot. Then they each put some money for him. After that the lights went out and a man dressed as an angel announced the birth of Jesus. Then they walked home.

When they reached the house, Mrs. Sousa put Paul and Maria to bed. Not knowing that they were still awake, she called her husband. He came with two presents and laid them by the baby Jesus.

Mrs. Sousa pulled out a gift and passed it over. Just then Mr. Sousa passed over a gift to Mrs. Sousa. Then they kissed. Afterwards they went to sleep.

Paul and Maria got up and put their gifts next to Jesus. Then they went to bed.

The following morning Paul jumped out of bed and found that Maria and mother were already having breakfast. Paul quickly joined them. Mr. Sousa walked in the door and sat down for breakfast.

After breakfast they opened the presents. Mr. Sousa was very pleased with his axe and kissed Paul and Maria. Then Mrs. Sousa opened her present. She was very happy with her new dress. Paul and Maria were very anxious to open their gifts.

Just then Uncle Joe walked in. Maria said: "Hi, Uncle Joe." "Hi," said Uncle Joe. Paul ran to meet him. Then all the guests came in. Mrs. Sousa and Maria set the table. She laid out the food. There were two big fat chickens, "filoses," "coscorões," and other sweet things with wine. After that the men played cards and the women talked.

And that's the way this family celebrated their Christmas in Altares, Terceira, Azores.

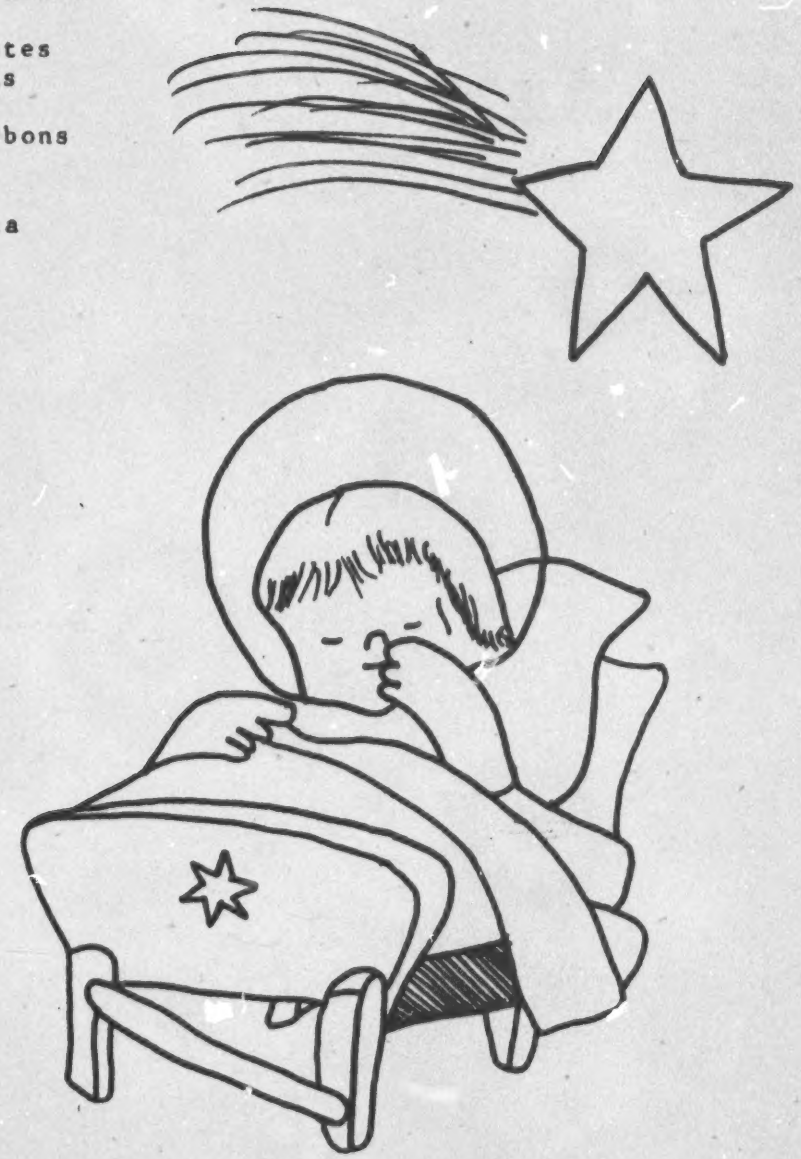
Jimmy Gonçalves, 13 years old
Luis Machado, 14 years old
Portuguese Culture
Faye Ross Jr. High School

Natal

O nosso menino
Nasceu em Belém
É dia de Jesus
E do Pai Noel também

Jesus dá presentes
Aos meninos bons
E o Pai Noel
Nos regala bom-bons

É dia de festa
É dia de alegria
Todos celebram
Em harmonia

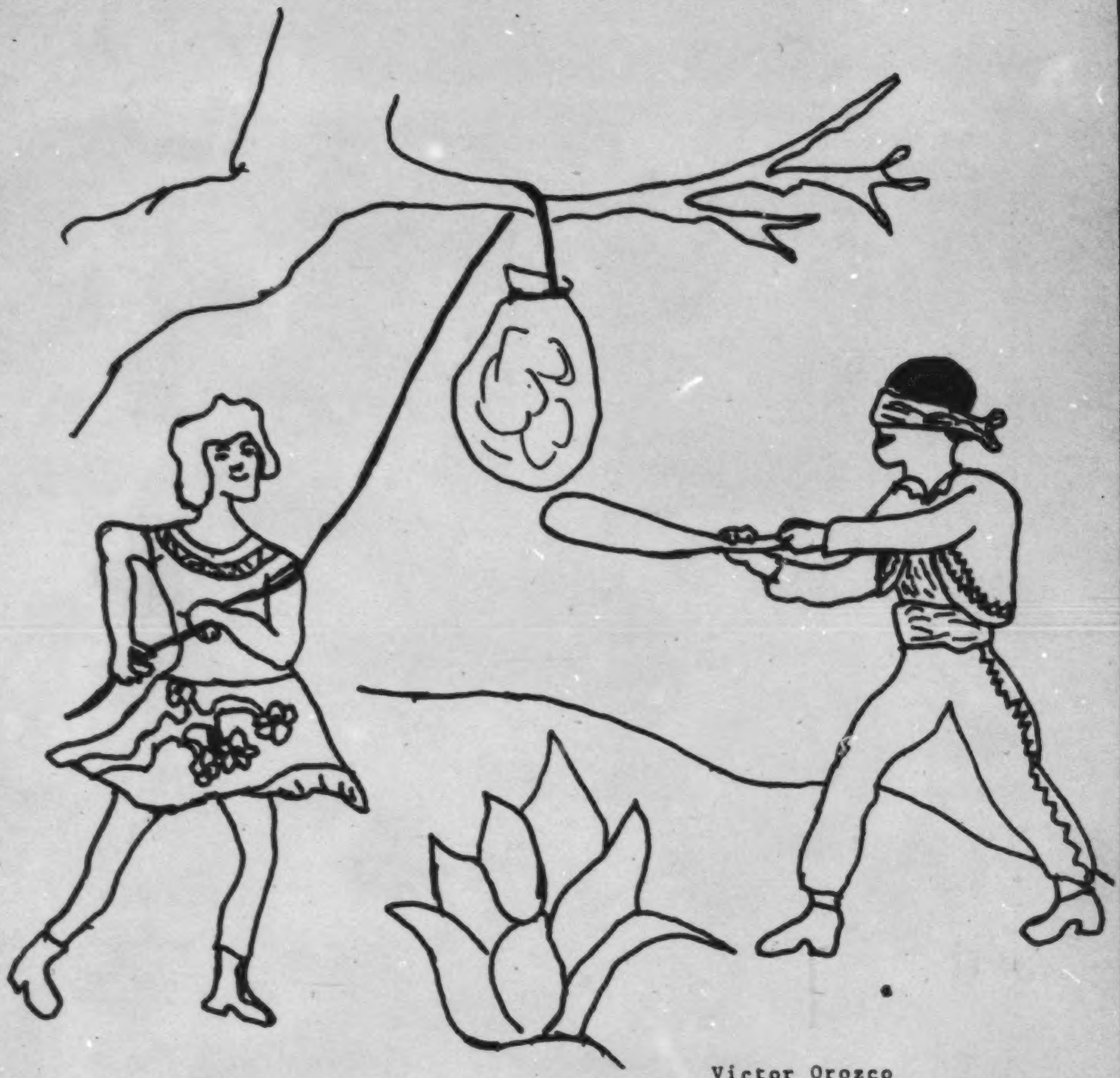


Tony Martins
12 anos de idade
Língua Portuguesa
Faye Ross Jr. High School

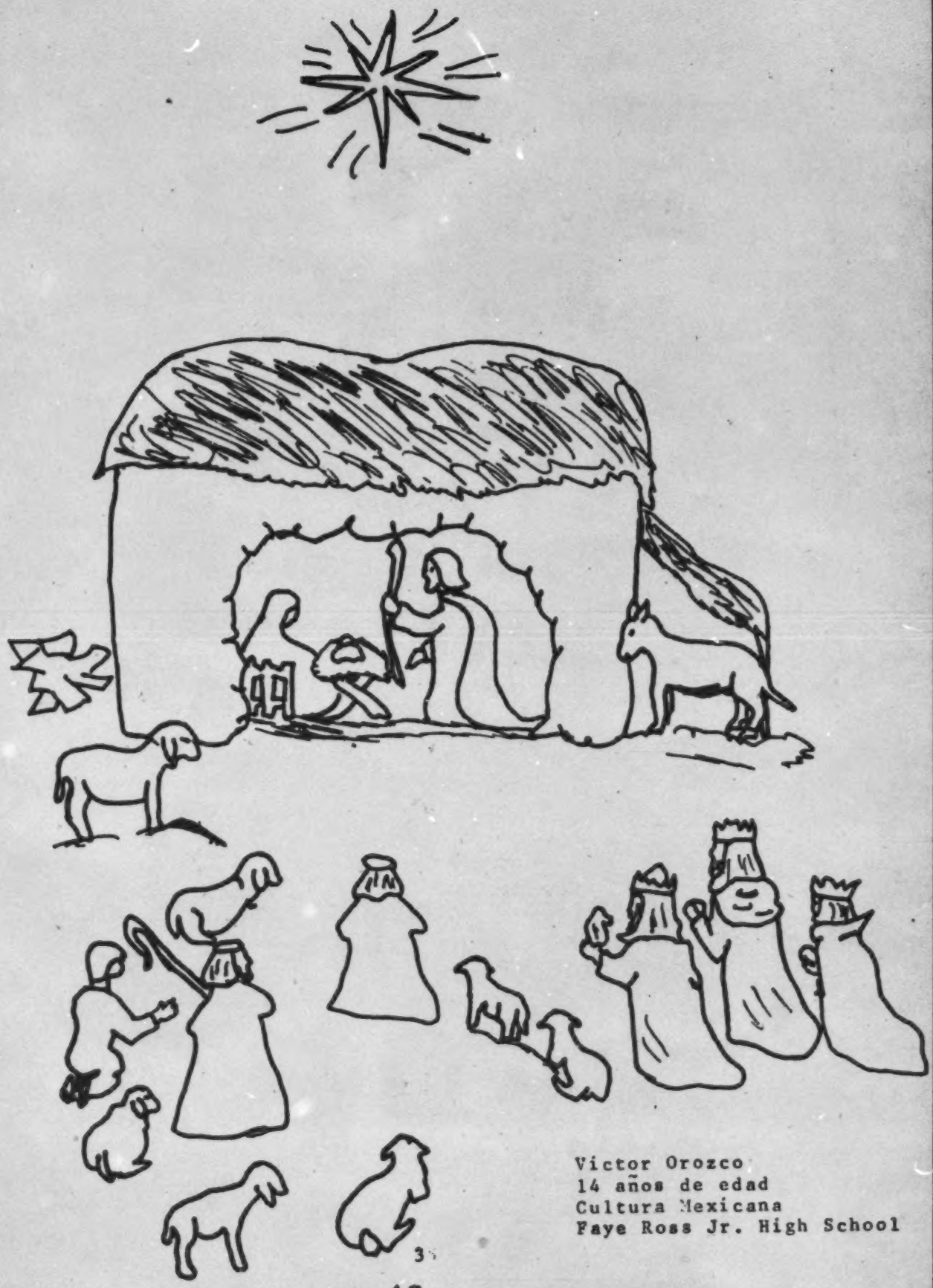
MEMORIES OF CHRISTMAS

IN

MEXICO AND CALIFORNIA



Victor Orozco
14 años de edad
Cultura Mexicana
Faye Ross Jr. High School



Victor Orozco
14 años de edad
Cultura Mexicana
Faye Ross Jr. High School

Los días de Navidad en Sanches, Román, Zacatecas, México

En "Tlaltenango," como llamamos nosotros a mi pueblo, los días de Navidad son la época más bonita de todo el año.

Empezamos el día 12 de diciembre, cuando se celebra y se hace fiesta a la Virgen de Guadalupe. La iglesia es adornada con flores naturales y telas muy finas. Se ve muy bonita.

Desde la orilla del pueblo empieza una procesión a las once de la mañana. Se viste a una niña de Virgen de Guadalupe, y a varios niños de angelitos. Ellos van en un carro. También acompañan a Juan Diego con las rosas.

Hay varios carros alegóricos muy bien adornados con flores naturales. Detrás de los carros va mucha gente rezando, y algunos echando cohetes. La procesión termina en la iglesia, dónde se quedan para asistir a la misa de las 12.

Hay mariachis que cantan antes y después de la misa.

Al salir de la misa, la gente se queda para asistir al desfile que es organizado por el colegio local.

Por la noche, como a las ocho, le queman un castillo a la Virgen de Guadalupe, y después se hechan cohetes.

El día 15, que es cuando empiezan las Posadas, se adornan las calles y las iglesias. Las arreglan muy bonitas.

En las casas levantan Nacimientos, dónde ponen al niño Jesús y muchos moñitos que representan los campesinos trabajando. También hay muchos animalitos y pajaritos y peces y todo lo que hacen en el campo.

Por las noches del 15 hasta el 24 organizamos las Posadas. Grupos de niños y adultos van por las calles con velas encendidas, y prendiendo castillitos. Se llaman así porque son chiquitos y echan muchas chispitas y estrellitas de distintos colores.

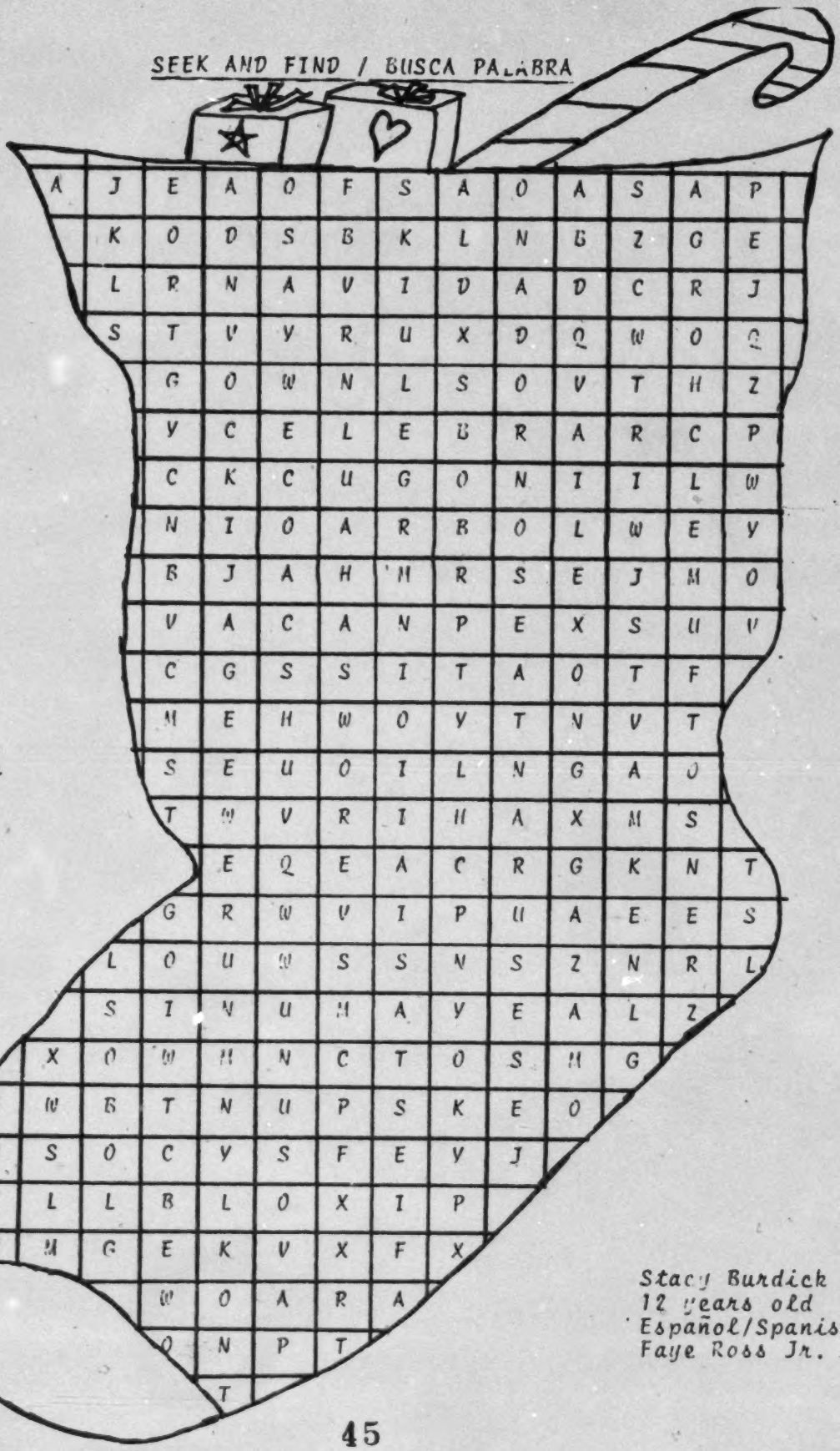
Una vez en el camino vamos a una casa, cantando y rezando, para quebrar las piñatas. Cuando las quiebran salen muchos dulces, frutas, galletas de animalitos y muchas cosas más. Acabándose las piñatas, abren la puerta de la casa y les dan muchos dulces a los niños.

pero a mí no me daban, porque yo ya estaba grande.

A mí me gustaba mucho andar en las Posadas con todos mis hermanos y hermanas, amigos, primas y primos, muchachas y con muchos amigos. Y como nos divertíamos!

Víctor Orozco
14 años de edad
Cultura Mexicana
Faye Ross Jr. High School

SEEK AND FIND / BUSCA PALABRA



FELIZ

NAVIDAD

Navidad
Adornos
Musica
Regalos
Pavo
Celebrar
Vaca
Melchor
Arbol
Nieve
Posadas
Jesus
Campanas
Globos
Fiestas
Gaspar

Stacy Burdick
12 years old
Español/Spanish
Faye Ross Jr. High

Navidad en Guanajuato

En México festejamos la Navidad con Posadas y piñatas. Primero, las personas se juntan en las casas y hacen un Nacimiento. Después, muchas muchachas, muchachos, señoras, señores y niños van a la Posada.

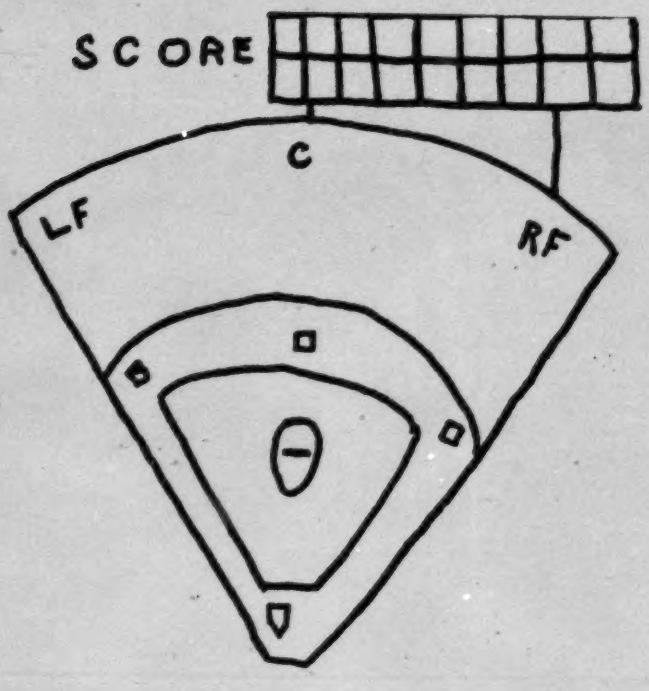
En la Posada rezan y cantan pidiendo posada, prenden velitas, avientan confeti y serpentinas. Cuando van saliendo de la Posada les dan bolsas de dulces y naranjas y muchas cosas más. Después, cuando salen, quebran la piñata. Todos los niños la rodean y dos señores la detienen, con un lazo. Ellos escojen a un niño de los que están rodeando la piñata y le vendan los ojos. Le dan vueltas y después le dan un garrote, o palo, o bate, y el niño trata de pegarle a la piñata.

Todos los otros niños cantan una canción que dice: "Que le pegue a la piñata." Después escojen a otro y otro niño, hasta que uno de los niños la quebra con los ojos cerrados y un garrote en la mano. Cuando la quebran, todos los niños corren a agarrar los dulces que caen de la piñata. Hay cañas, cacahuates, naranjas, mandarinas, tejocotes, dinero y muchas cosas más. Así continuan haciendo posadas por siete días.

A los siete días de Posadas nace el Niño Dios. El día que nace el Niño Dios hacen fiesta. Arrullan al Niño Dios y le cantan canciones. Todos son felices esa noche. Todos se dan regalos y en la fiesta dan muchos dulces y dan café y otras cosas más para todos los que van a la fiesta. También avientan mucho confeti a las 12 de la noche, y con pitos, serpentinas y confetis se la pasan todos muy contentos. Es todo lo que me acuerdo.

Martha Hernández
14 años de edad
Cultura Mexicana
Faye Ross Jr. High School

SPELLING BASEBALL



Christmas
Donkey
Celebration
December
Celebrate
Music
Turkey
Stick
tree
Bells
Presents
Christmas Cards
Balloons
Candies
Stars
Snow
Midnight
To Break
Piñata

CHRISTMAS EVE CUSTOMS

These words are to be translated into Spanish.

DIRECTIONS: This is a spelling Baseball game. It has the same rules as regular Baseball. Every Incorrect word is an out. The harder the word, the better the hit. You tell the teacher if you want to go for a homerun or a triple, double or single. After all the words are finished the game is over the team with the most runs wins.

Robert Villegas
13 years old
Randy Lee
13 years old
Español / Spanish
Faye Ross Jr. High

How Mexican People Celebrate Christmas in California

Mexican people celebrate Christmas in California the same as the people in Mexico. Because they are both Mexican and have the same feelings and customs, they celebrate it the same way.

On the days before Christmas, the kids of California have their vacations and they go fishing, swimming, play football, baseball, or any kind of game they think is fun.

On Christmas vacation some Mexican people go to different places to visit their relatives in Guatemala, Durango, México and other beautiful places. There are some Mexican people who don't have much money to buy their children big toys or the toys they want, but they save money to buy food or else they make their own. My Mom makes us champurrado, buñuelos, chocolate, atole, posole, tacos, mole and other foods.

On Saturdays we may go to the park and my Mom makes us something to eat. Then our friends come in their cars and they bring beer, sodas, pies and ice cream. My Dad sometimes gets drunk with his friends, but then they put up the piñata for the little kids. The big kids start a football game and the mothers go and talk on the table. After we go home at night, me, my brother and his friends go to parties and dances.

The next morning, when we get up, we visit our friends, and we go buy stuff for Christmas. While we are out shopping, the Mexican People are putting up their trees and light bulbs on their houses. When we came back, we help put up our Christmas tree and light bulbs.

We may have some of our relatives over, and have a party with my aunt, uncle and our cousins, and have food. And I put on records and maybe the T.V., so that the little kids can watch it. I will make everybody sing Mexican Christmas songs and put Mexican records on, so that they and us, the teenagers, can dance.

I hope I will get shirts, pants, socks, T-shirts and other presents. But Mexican families go to weddings on their vacations, and then they go home and have a good time. But we can't have enough fun like the people in Mexico, because in the United States the police doesn't let you pop firecrackers and skyrockets. They don't even let you light a little fire out on your own yard. They are a bunch of cheap suckers.

In Mexico, they let you buy firecrackers and they let you buy beer, and they let you buy a whole mess of stuff that they don't let you buy over here. In East Los Angeles, they make parties for God. They put up the Mexican Flag and they give free food out and sodas. They light candles and sing songs and they give out presents and they make a parade for all the Mexican People.

They show a statue of God and of their other saints on the parade. They put lights on the cars and they put decorations all over the town. A man dresses up like Santa Claus and gives out candy to all the kids.

We may go to Mexico and stay there from December the 23th to January the 3rd. I don't like to celebrate Christmas in the United States because in Mexico I have all my friends and some of my relatives. Over there we have a lot of fun going hunting, and teaching our cousins and friends to play football.

At night my Dad lets me drive the car so I can go to the store and cruise along with my friends, but I can't do that over here because the law says you have to have a license.

In the United States people have a lot of presents to give to their children. Mexican people have only a few toys, and at night they watch Christmas programs.

My little brother likes to watch "Santa Claus is Coming to Town," "Rudolph, the Red Nosed Reindeer" and "Frosty, the Snowman." I like to watch my favorite programs. Some are "Good Times," "Happy Days," "That's My Momma" and others. But since Christmas ain't about those programs, I watch what all my family watches.

My Mom on some Christmas' hides our presents and in the morning we go looking for them. My Mom makes us breakfast and we go show what we got to our friends.

Frank Jiménez
14 years old
Mexican Culture
Faye Ross Jr. High School

MATCH / CASA

Diciembre	stick
Navidad	parties
celebrar	presents
adornos	tree
música	snow
campanas	decorations
regalos	music
pavo	Christmas
globos	Jesus
Jesús	balloons
árbol	turkey
Nieve	bells
fiestas	celebrate
Palo	December

//

EXAMPLE / EJEMPLO

Robert Flores
12 years old
Español / Spanish
Faye Ross Jr. High

Navidad en Zacatecas

Yo tenía once años cuando nos venimos de México. Yo soy de Zacatecas. Zacatecas está junto a Jalisco y Guadalajara.

El día 12 de diciembre hay feria y desfile para celebrar el día de la Virgen de Guadalupe. Tenemos misa para la Virgen, y cantamos. La misa empieza a las cinco de la mañana. Los mariachis cantan durante y después de la misa. El templo está arreglado muy bonito con flores. El altar también está arreglado. Hoy también hay peregrinaciones.

Se arreglan carros alegóricos con la Virgen y Juan Diego, cuando él le trajo las flores. Hay muchos carros que están arreglados muy bonitos.

Dentro de las casas se arreglan altares. Toda la gente viene a mirar los altares, y después en la tarde vienen a mirarlos y a bendecirlos.

En la primera semana de diciembre los padres iban a cortar los árboles de Navidad. Cuando regresaban con los árboles, los pintaban, y dejábamos que se secaran. Después, los adornábamos.

Ponemos el Nacimiento debajo del árbol. Dentro del Nacimiento ponemos al Niño Dios, la Virgen, vacas los Reyes, y santos.

En la Noche Buena nosotros ponemos arriba de los sapatos una boletita de lo que queremos.

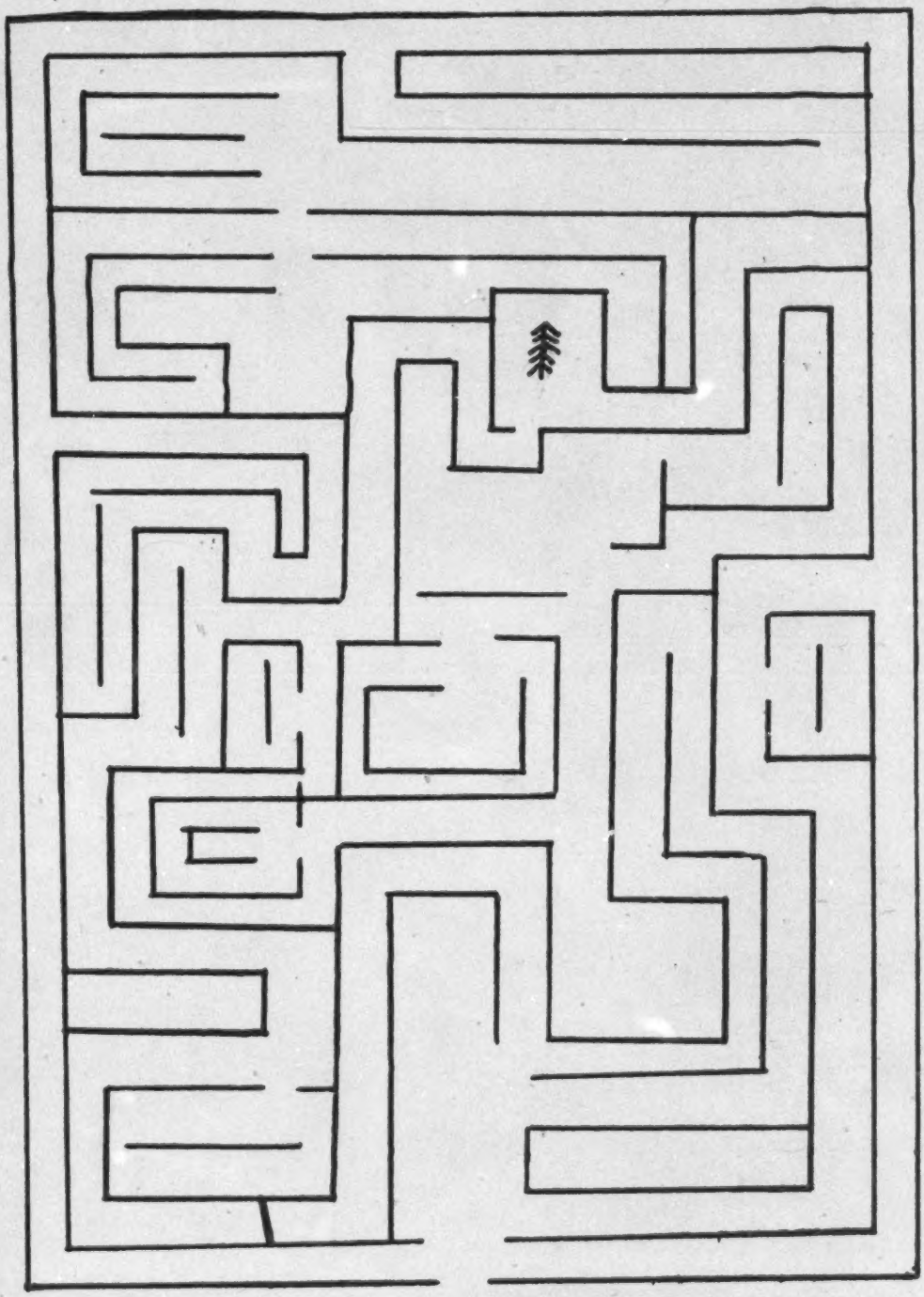
En la mañana, cuando nos despertamos y miramos el árbol, nos dá mucho gusto ver nuestros regalos de Navidad. Más tarde, en el día de los Reyes, ponemos otra boletita arriba de los zapatos, y nos traen puros dulces, galletas, naranjas y muchas cosas más.

En el día de la Navidad comemos buñuelos, tamales y atole. Cenamos y festejamos todo eso muy a gusto.

Olga Garcia
13 años de edad
Cultura Mexicana
Faye Ross Jr. High School

PUZZLE

Find the path to the Christmas tree.



Michael Garcia
13 Years old
Español / Spanish
Faye Ross Jr. High

Navidad en Camichines

En Camichines, México, celebramos la Navidad así: primero se hacen las Posadas por la noche. Se junta toda la gente en la iglesia, y después se sale a cantar por todas las casas cuando llega el día de Navidad.

Una mujer se viste de Virgen María, y un hombre de San José, con el Niño Dios. Ellos andan en un burro y caminan por todas las calles, y detrás de ellos va mucha gente cantando y rezando, con velas encendidas.

En la escuela, días antes de la Navidad, nosotros llevamos plata que nuestros padres nos dan, y la entregamos al maestro. Él recoge la plata de todos los niños y compra muchos regalos el día que salimos de vacaciones. Los niños hacen intercambio de regalos.

En la iglesia se hace un altar con un Nacimiento. En el pesebre de Belén se pone a la Virgen, al Niño, a su Papá. También se ponen a los Reyes, que se llaman Melchor, Gaspar y Baltasar, un día después de la Navidad.

Los niños se juntan en la iglesia y quebran piñatas. Sus madres traen comida y hacen ese día un "día de campo." Allí cantan y bailan y comen buñuelos, tamales, tostadas, y guacamole.

Cerca de la iglesia hay un cerro con una Cruz, y la gente lleva muchas flores y las deja allí.

En el día de los Reyes, el 6 de enero, mucha gente se viste de distintas maneras y acompaña a los Reyes, que van por las calles repartiendo regalos a todas las casas. También es en ese día que se levantan los Nacimientos. Y así termina la Navidad.

Rosa Nápoles
14 años de edad
Cultura Mexicana
Faye Ross Jr. High School

Match the words in English to Spanish /
Pareje las Palabras en Ingles con las Palabras en español

Diciembre	Merry Christmas
Navidad	Balloons
Celebrar	Stars
Tarjetas de Navidad	stick
Adornos	presents
Música	Snow
Campanas	to break
Noche Buena	Family
Regalos	Three wise men
Pavo	Tree
Globos	Cow
Medianoche	turkey
Jesús	Camel
Camello	Christmas
Burro	Midnight
Vaca	Candies
Familia	Donkey
Felices Pascuas	Parties
Árbol	December
Estrellas	Bells
Nieve	Christmas Cards
Fiestas	Decorations
Palo	Music
Romper	Celebrate
Dulces	Jesus
Reyes Magos	Christmas Eve

Patricia Rincón, 12 years old, Spanish, Faye Ross Jr. Hig

La Navidad en Jalpa, México

Cuando salí de Zacatecas, tenía solamente 11 años de edad. Una cosa que jamás se me olvidará es como se celebraba la Navidad en mi pueblo, Jalpa.

A partir del 16 hasta el 23 de diciembre, toda la gente se reúne en la capilla para comenzar un desfile que nosotros llamamos las Posaditas. Tiene lugar de las siete hasta las nueve de la noche.

Empezamos por visitar una o dos casas por noche. Allí cantamos y quebramos la piñata, y sacamos los dulces.

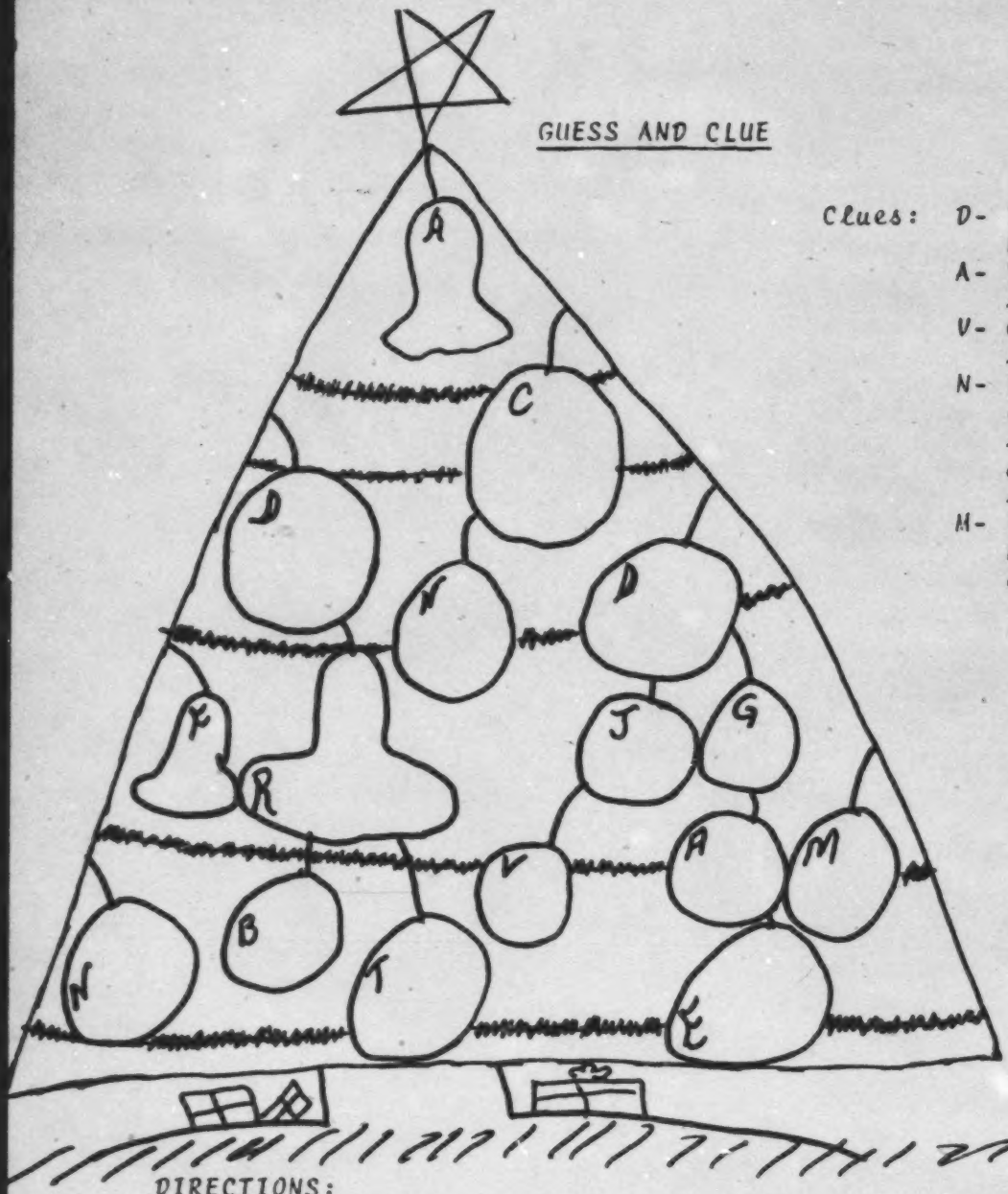
En general cada casa tiene una piñata. Además de la piñata, hay un Nacimiento. En una mesa llena de adornos y en la noche del 24, los niños allí colocan tarjetitas escritas, pidiendo al Niño Dios los regalos que les gustan.

También en el altar de la iglesia hay un Nacimiento, y allí se celebra la Misa del Gallo, que empieza a la medianoche, y termina a las dos.

En el 25 de diciembre, tres hombres se visten de Reyes Magos. Uno se llama Melchor, otro Gaspar y el otro Baltasar. Ellos buscan a varios niños y andan por las calles cantando, un ratito por la mañana, y otro ratito por la noche. El 6 de enero los mismos hombres se disfrazan de Reyes Magos y vienen por las casas regalando regalos a los niños. A veces dejan los regalos en la ventana.

Marisela Ramírez
12 años de edad
Cultura Mexicana
Faye Ross Jr. High School

GUESS AND CLUE



Clues:
- D- It is sweet and kids like it.
- A- You decorate the tree with them.
- V- One of the animals in the manger.
- N- In the winter it comes, In the summer it goes. It is cold and comes from the sky.
- M- It is pleasant to hear. Especially on Christmas.

DIRECTIONS:
On each ornament is a letter. The letter is the first letter of a Christmas word. You guess what the word is and write it on the ornament. If there are ornaments with the same letter, then look at the clues. You can use different colors of crayons, colored pencils and markers to make the tree colorful.

NOTE: The words are in Spanish.

Judy Granado
13 years old
Español / Spanish
Faye Ross Jr. High

La Navidad en Jalisco

En Jalisco, nosotros celebramos la Navidad con las Posadas. Las Posadas empiezan el 16 de diciembre y terminan el 24. Cuando la gente va a la Misa del Gallo, se queda en la iglesia hasta el amanecer del 25 de diciembre, el día del Niño Dios.

A partir del 16 de diciembre tenemos el Rosario en la iglesia, el cual termina a las nueve de la noche. Las Posadas se forman fuera de la Iglesia después, en dos filas, una de niños y otra de niñas, que se disfrazan de pastores, y traen bordones. También hay una muchacha que se disfraza de Virgen María, y un muchacho de San José, y llevan un niño para representar al Niño Dios.

Esperamos fuera de la Iglesia hasta que nos den dulces, galletas, e cacahuates. Vamos de visita a algunas casas. En cada una tienen una piñata. Nosotros la quebramos, y sacamos dulces, cacahuates, cañas y naranjas. Después, la familia de la casa nos da unos emboltorios que nosotros llevamos para casa, y los abrimos a la media noche, en el dia 25 de diciembre. La Virgen María nos acompaña sentada en un burro con el Niño Dios y el Señor San José.

Cuando se terminan las Posadas se reúne toda la familia en una casa, y comemos buñuelos, tamales, atole, y postre. Después de la comida, siguen platicando hasta el 25 de diciembre, y pasan una Feliz Navidad. Por las calles ponen faroles y focos, y en las casas también tienen árboles con esferitas, faroles, focos, y tarjetas. En la punta del árbol ponen una estrella, y también bordones de dulce. Así, pasamos una Feliz Navidad.

El día 6 de enero es el día de los Reyes Magos, que se llaman Gaspar, Melchor, y Baltasar. En ese día, ellos traen muchos regalos a los niños. Les traen bicicletas y pelotas. Ellos también hacen Posadas para darles regalos. A los niños y a las niñas les traen muñecas, juegos de té, cuñitas para las muñecas, o zapatos, vestidos, o dinero, pero no dejan a nadie sin juguetes.

Nelly Alvarado
13 años de edad
Cultura Mexicana
Faye Ross Jr. High School

FELICES - NAVIDADES

Ve cuantas palabras tú puedes hacer fuera de las palabras Felices Navidades.

Por ejemplo: Si Y Va son dos de las palabras.

1. Si

2. Va

3. _____

Lisa Genzel
13 years old
Español / Spanish
Faye Ross Jr. High

La Navidad en mi Pueblo

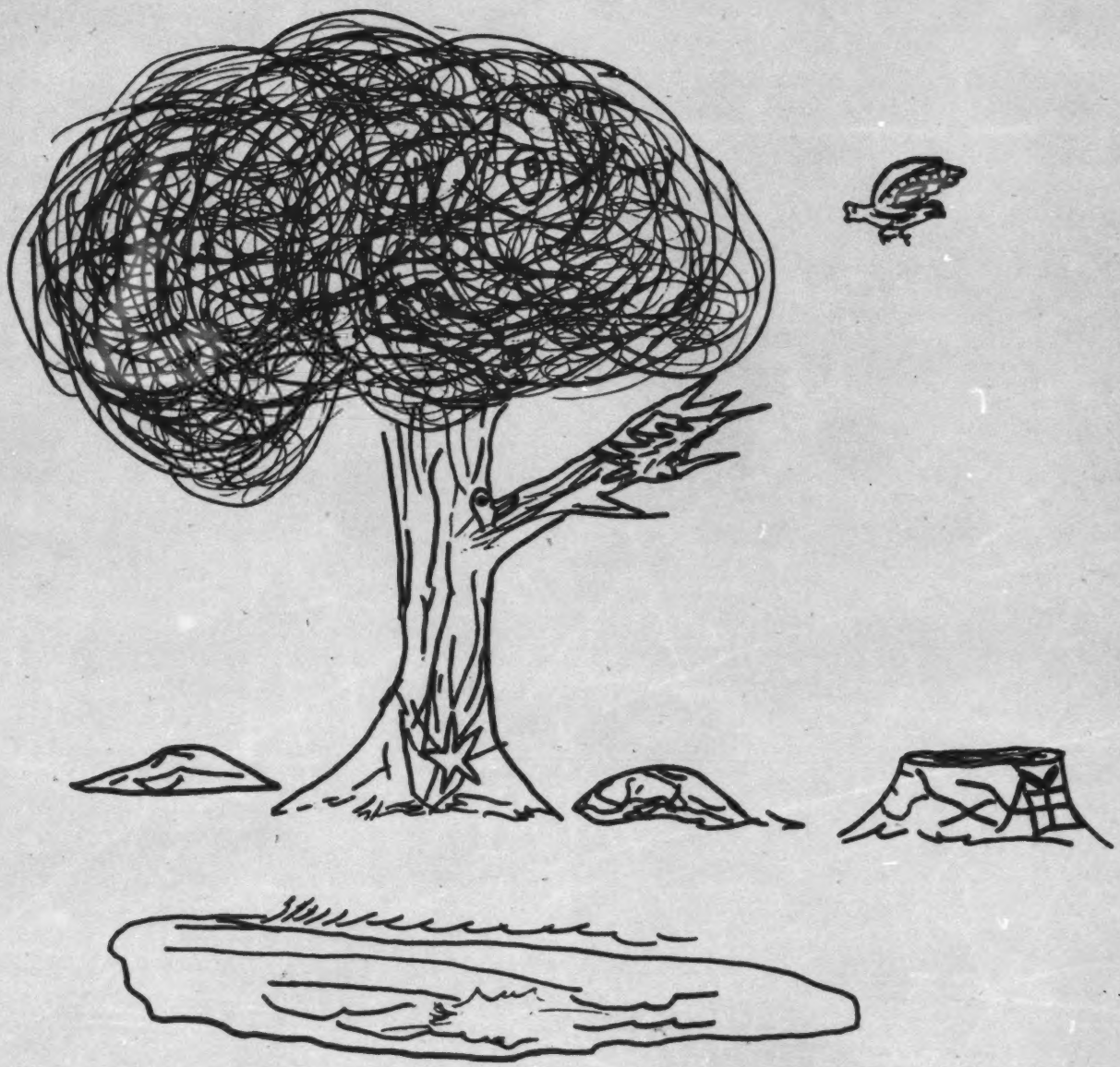
Donde yo vivía en México hacen Posadas. Arreglan el templo muy bien y cantamos. En las casas hacen Posadas y nos dan dulces, galletas y muchas cosas. En la iglesia ponen muchas flores, y ponen al Jesús Cristo de Nazaré. En las calles ponen muchos adornos, piñatas y muchas cosas más. En la escuela ponen el Nacimiento y el arbolito, y lo adornan.

En la plaza hacen fiesta, baile y muchas cosas. Las personas también se casan de mentiras. Agarran a los novios afuerzas, y los casan.

En todas las casas ponen arbolitos y nacimientos. Cuando llega el día del niño Dios, a las doce, todos nos damos un abrazo y decimos "Feliz Navidad." Luego en las calles cantan muy bonito a Dios. Los niños en las Posadas se visten de pastorcitos, y les dan comida, dulces, y galletas. De comida les dan buñuelos, tostadas, posole, tamales y atole.

El día 6 de enero, también se hace bailes y los santos Reyes nos traen juguetes. Hay misas en la tarde. En la plaza ponen juegos. También viene el circo, y toda la gente va. Es muy bonito. Á mí me gustaba mucho ir. En la iglesia cantan muy bonito, y afuera ponen castillos y los queman. Los niños llevan regalos a la escuela, y los cambian unos con los otros.

Rosa Maria González
14 años de edad
Cultura Mexicana
Faye Ross Jr. High School



BUSCA

1. Globos
2. Regalos
3. Árbol de Navidad
4. Conejos
5. Cabeza de pato

Tom Hanenburg
13 years old
Spanish/Español
Faye Ross Jr. High School

Christmas

My family likes Christmas
And all the food is free
My family's decorating
Our pretty Christmas tree

My Mom makes a lot of food
And a special kind of sauce
But on Christmas Day
Everybody likes Santa Claus

One day we were walking home
We were going by ourselves
And on our way there were
Santa's little elves

In Mexico we make our own tools
Our favorites are the spears
One night I looked outside
And I saw Santa's deers

Girls are girls
Boys are boys
On Christmas Day
Children get
A lot of toys

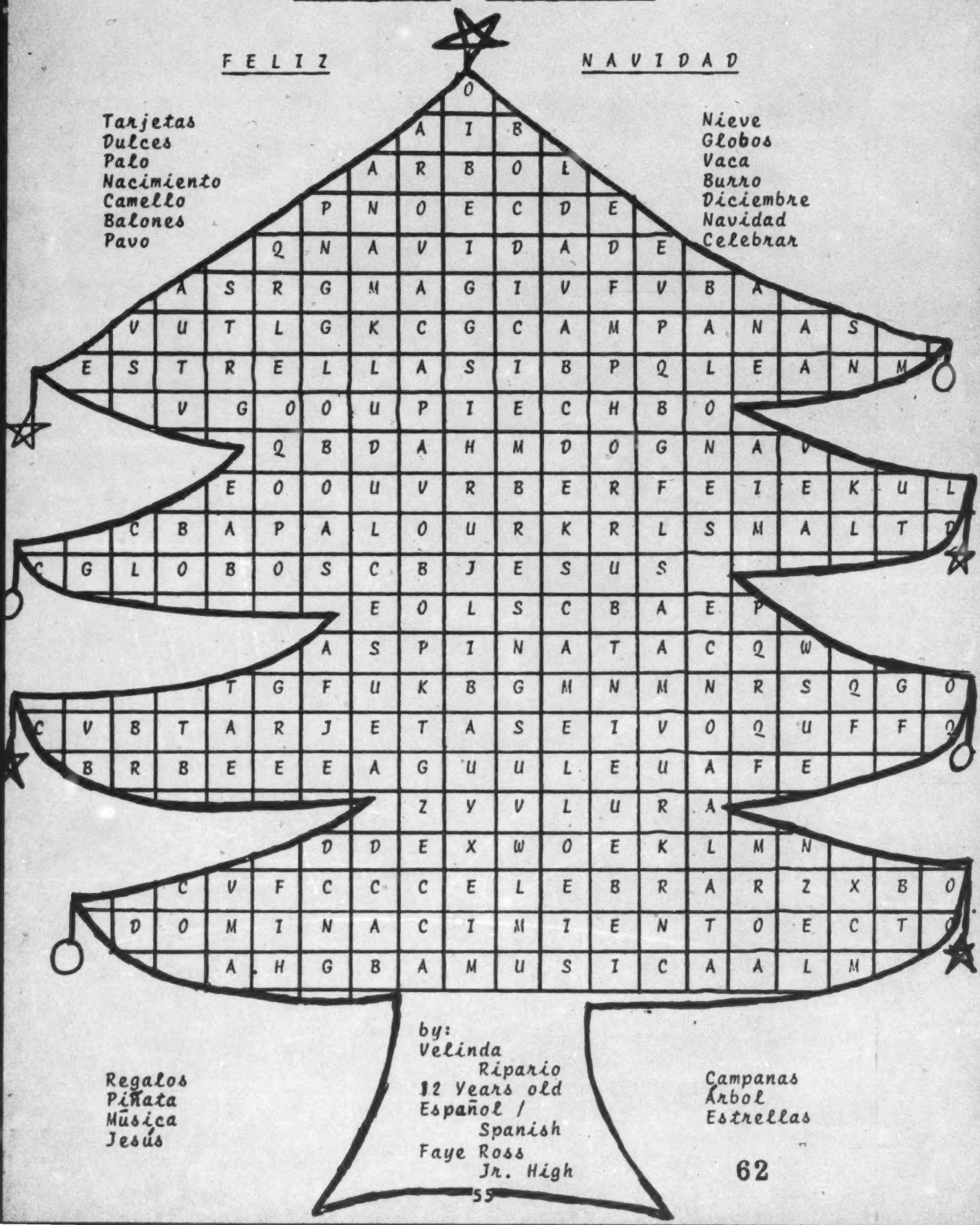
Frank Jiménez
14 years old
Mexican Culture
Faye Ross Jr. High School

SEEK AND FIND / BUSCA PALABRA

FELIZ NAVIDAD

Tarjetas
Dulces
Palo
Nacimiento
Camello
Balones
Pavo

Nieve
Globos
Vaca
Burro
Diciembre
Navidad
Celebrar



Regalos
Piñata
Música
Jesús

Campanas
Árbol
Estrellas

by:
Velinda Riparo
12 Years old
Español / Spanish
Faye Ross Jr. High

62

Navidad

Nosotros hacemos la Navidad con pastores, que dazan en el templo o en la calle. A veces salen con unos señores vestidos de diablos. Muchachos y muchachas se visten de pastores. Algunos se ponen sombreros forrados de flores, con espejos. Otros también se ponen espejos en los trajes.

Las Posadas, las formamos así: primero van a la misa, y cuando se salen del templo empiezan a cantar al niñito Dios. Empiezan a las ocho de la noche, y acaban a las diez. También hay misa a medianoche. Y salen los adoradores, a adorar al niñito Dios.

También en las Posadas se forman dos filas, una de niños y otra de niñas. Les dan dulces, naranjas, cacahuates, y otras cosas más.

El nacimiento lo ponen con el niñito Dios, santitos, gallinitas, patos, venados, burros, y otras cosas más.

Las Navidades no son iguales en todos los pueblos, pero todas las Navidades en México tienen posadas y velación al niñito Dios. En mi pueblo sacan al niñito Dios por la calle. Lo traen dos señores.

A veces viene el señor obispo a dar misa, de Colima, una ciudad cerca de mi pueblo. Allí hacen las Navidades bonitas, pero en mi pueblo las hacen diferentes. En mi pueblo los adoradores van a adorar al niñito Dios, y los portadores danzan en el templo y afuera, en la calle, para que toda la gente lo vea. Cuando bailan en el templo, los diablos también salen danzando, y unos señores tocan música. Los que bailan en el templo comienzan a las doce del día, y terminan a las dos de la tarde.

La Navidad es bonita en cualquier parte de México, pero yo prefiero la fiesta que dan en mi pueblo. Es muy bonita. A nosotros nos dan tres semanas de vacaciones. Vamos al río, y vamos a comer cañas, plátanos, mangos, y muchas cosas más.

Yo iba con el señor cura al rancho a dar misa a todos los rancheros. Yo era sacristán, y yo juntaba la limosna que nos daban los señores. También íbamos a un pueblo, dónde nos invitaban a tomar café o a comer. Ese pueblo se llama La Plazita.

Nosotros vamos a los pueblos cercanos porque más cerca no hay padres. Pero a los ranchos sí que tenemos que ir lejos.

El señor cura nos cuenta historias de las Navidades y del niñito Dios. Nos cuenta historias muy bonitas.

Heriberto Solares
13 años de edad
Cultura Mexicana
Faye Ross Jr. High School

MEMORIES OF CHRISTMAS

IN CUBA

Anna Melendrez
14 years old
Español/Spanish
Faye Ross Jr. High School

La Navidad en Oriente, Cuba

En el pueblo de Oriente, Cuba, hoy no se celebra la Navidad, porque Fidel Castro no lo permite, pero antes, cuando yo estaba allá, se celebraba con mucha alegría. La familia se reunía para la cena del 25 de diciembre. Éste es el acontecimiento más importante de la Navidad para nosotros. La cena consistía en un lechón asado "congris," o sea arroz con frijoles negros y yuca hervida. También se comía frutas como naranjas, uvas y manzanas. Además, se comía muchos dulces, como turrones de alicante, masapan, llema, jijona y también se comía nueces y abellanas. Con la comida, y todo el día de Navidad, se tomaba mucho vino. Digo que se tomaba, porque los niños también tomaban vino. Algunos de estos productos eran transportados de España y de California, y otros eran de Cuba. Después de concluída la cena, a mi familia le gustaba escuchar música, y terminábamos bailando bonitos "Sones," o sea canciones de baile. Algunos de estos sones se intitulan: En Manzanillo se baila el Zon, Son de la Loma, El Manisero, Son de Almendra, y otras melodias como La Guantanamera. Ademas de bailar, también se cantaba versos.

En la Navidad, también se adornaban las casas con arbolitos de Navidad y Nacimientos. Después del 25 de diciembre, esperábamos ansiosamente por la despedida del Ano Viejo. En estos días se oía decir: "está grave el viejo; le queda poco." El 31 de diciembre se reunía la familia para una cena idéntica a la de la Navidad. Un poquito antes de las doce se repartían doce uvas a cada persona, y cuando daban las doce, se las comían. Al mismo tiempo, se hacían disparos de fuego, siquitraques, bombitas, cohetes, etc. Entonces se brindaba por el Nuevo Año que comenzaba, y todos se deseaban muchas felicidades. Se abrazaban y se besaban y se ponían a bailar los ricos Sones.

Los Reyes se celebran el día seis de enero. Los niños acostumbraban hacer carticas, en las cuales decían que se habían portado bien con sus padres, y que estaban adelantados en el colegio. Las dejaban debajo de la almohada, y colgaban los zapaticos y medias en la ventana, y se acostaban temprano para esperar a que trajeran los juguetes. Al otro día, era un día de gran alborozo y alegría: se oían pitos, filarmónicas y ruidos de distintos juguetes.

Adela López
12 años de edad
Cultura Mexicana
Faye Ross Jr. High School

MERRY CHRTSTMAS

Find it and Name it in Spanish

1. one 1
2. one 9
3. one 8
4. two C's
5. one O
6. four L's
7. one D
8. one U
9. one X
10. one 7

Jim Willard, 13
Jim Bolander, 13
Español/Spanish
Faye Ross Jr. High School

Las Navidades de mi pueblo, Camaguey

Salí de Cuba hace 2 años. Las Navidades de mi pueblo Camaguey comienzan al principio de diciembre. Adornan todas las tiendas y todas las calles. También adornan las casas con arbolitos.

En las calles ponen faroles y campanas, y también van poniendo un quiosquito para vender comida. Se vende cerveza, refresco y otras cosas más.

Después de arreglar todas las casas, empiezan a ensayar los desfiles para el día 25 de diciembre, y desfilan la marina, la policía con perros grandísimos, tanques de guerra, policía de armada, y en uno de los carros va el gobernador, y todas las calles están cubiertas de policía.

Cuando se acaba el desfile, nos vamos para casa, y allí asamos un lechón, o sea un puerco. Además del lechón, preparamos la comida con yucas, arroz y frutas, como el anoncillo, la manzana, el mango marañon y otras clases más de fruta. Toda la familia se reúne para la comida.

En casa, ponemos un árbol de Navidad. Se le forra de bola y unos flecos en el tronco y se le pone un algodón. En cima del algodón se le pone un Nacimiento con unos ángeles, y al lado una estrella grande.

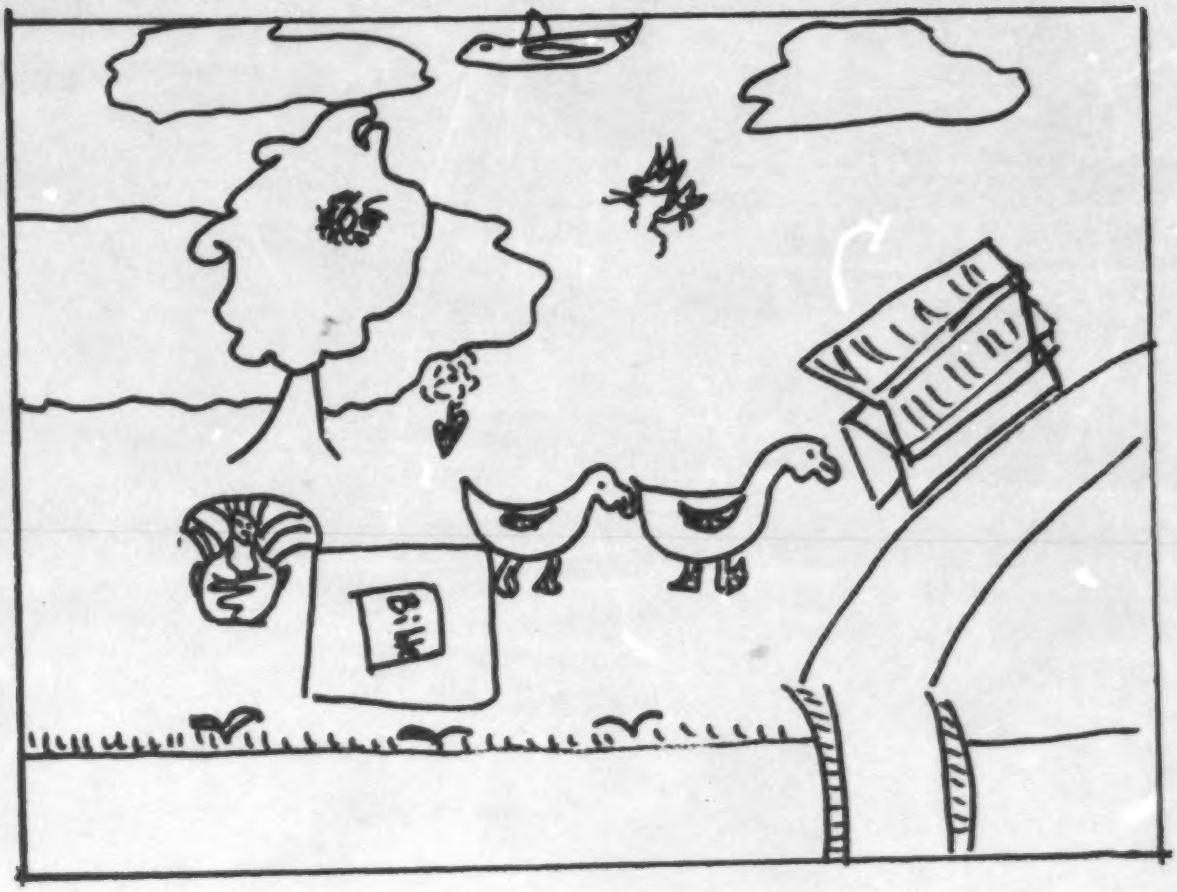
En la escuela, los maestros y los alumnos cooperan con dinero para comprar regalos para los padres, y para comprar una piñata y una torta. Cuando está todo comprado, colgamos la piñata con una cuerda al techo. Con un palo se le da a la piñata, y la comemos. Todos los regalos cayen al piso, y los muchachos los cogen.

Cuando salí de Cuba yo tenía 11 años. De Cuba llegámos a España, y en España nos quedámos 2 años. Entonces, allí pasámos dos navidades muy bonitas y lindas.

Erasmo Rodríguez
13 años de edad
Cultura Mexicana
Faye Ross Jr. High School

LOOK AT THE PICTURE AND NAME WHAT YOU SEE

MIRA EL RETRATO Y NOMBRA LO QUE VES:



In English

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

In Spanish

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

by:
Tracy Chamber
12 years old
Español
Spanish
Faye Ross Jr. High